

Hafa Adai!

SMO hosts Korean Junior Big Band exchange. PAGE 2

DPS gifted with \$40K narcotics analyzer. PAGE 3

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\$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



Sablan, Lin are top SSHS graduates

By LEIGH GASES

leigh_gases@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

The Top 9 of Saipan Southern High School's Class of 2024 poses for a group photo. The valedictorian was awarded in absentia during their graduation ceremony last Monday.

At a sun-splashed graduation ceremony last Monday afternoon, the

south side of Saipan celebrated its 142 graduates as they moved on to the next chapter of their lives.

Ye Zhi Sablan and Jing Lin

See SSHS on Page 4

ON OVER \$13M CUC ARREARS

Govt makes good promise to reconcile delinquent accounts

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

The CNMI government has made good on its promise to reconcile its delinquent utility bills and has paid over \$3 million of the over \$13 million owed to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.



Terlaje

During a CUC board meeting last week, former acting executive director Betty Terlaje informed the board that the CNMI government continues to reconcile its delinquent accounts with CUC and has made its promised 25% payment for its May

reconciliation in the amount of \$2.5 million.

The \$2.5 million is on top of the \$1.7 million that the CNMI government paid CUC back in April following its initial meeting with CUC to address arrears and how to

See GOV on Page 4

Javier's Rota Wedding Cake Mt. wins MVA Photo Contest

Rota's iconic Wedding Cake Mt. captured by the lens of



Elmer Javier has won first place in the Marianas Visitors Authority's "Capture the Beauty of the Marianas" photo contest.

The contest—held on Facebook and Instagram from May 1 to 27, 2024—was open to entries worldwide, inviting participants to post their

See CONTEST on Page 4



A photo of the Garapan beachline on Saipan submitted by Justin Poon won second place and \$200 in the Marianas Visitors Authority's "Capture the Beauty of the Marianas" online photo contest in May 2024.



A photo of House of Taga on Tinian submitted by Anan Khan won third place and \$100 in the Marianas Visitors Authority's "Capture the Beauty of the Marianas" online photo contest in May 2024.

INSIDE

LOCAL

Thirty-one enthusiastic middle school students from Saipan International School have successfully completed the PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Course.

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BUSINESS

Sincerely Saipan Destinations is excited to announce the launch of the island's first LGBTQ+ tour and wedding destination company.

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LIFE & STYLE

Janis Paige, a popular actor in Hollywood and in Broadway musicals and comedies who danced with Fred Astaire, toured with Bob Hope and continued to perform into her 90s, has died.

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Local

SMO hosts Korean Junior Big Band exchange

The Saipan Mayor's Office recently hosted youth band students from the Korean Junior Big Band group during a five-day visit to Saipan.

During the visit, the students got a chance to explore and experience the island's culture and lifestyle. On a sightseeing tour, the group visited locations such as the Korean Peace Memorial, Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, and other locations around island.

The students also got a chance to gain cultural knowledge and enrichment through activities such as a visit to the 500 Sails boatyard, where they got to see and learn about traditional sailing vessels and techniques, and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, where library staff welcomed the students and engaged them in historical and cultural activities.

They viewed cultural artifacts and crafts, such as ancient weapons and beads, and learned how to make flower pins, banana painting, coconut husking and experienced cooking coconut candy. The students even got



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group pose after performing for the island's *man'amko* at the Aging Center.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group after their performance at the Marianas High School cafeteria.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group makes a courtesy call to Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

a chance to try their hand in learning some Chamorro.

A large part of this exchange trip saw the Korean Junior Big Band get a chance to share their great talents with the people of Saipan. The band performed at several locations and events throughout Saipan. Their first performance saw them give a concert to our island's *man'amko* at the Office of Aging much to the delight of its patrons. The students also got a chance to perform at Marianas High School where they got to meet and interact with fellow youth. Performances were also held at the President's Cup at the Koblerville Soccer Facility and the Taste of the Marianas.

On the recreational side, the

students got to stay with local host families over the weekend and spend time with them. The group also enjoyed a fun day at Mañagaha Island.

Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho met with the students and handed out certificates of appreciation. He talked with the students and asked them to share their experiences with family and friends back in South Korea and to encourage them to visit the island.

For any questions or more information, contact the Saipan Mayor's Office at (670) 234-6208. Office hours are Monday through Friday, from 7:30am to 4:30pm. The Saipan Mayor's Office is also open through lunch. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group visits the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group goes sightseeing at Bird Island Lookout.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Korean Junior Big Band group visits 500 Sails.

Raffle Prizes included:

- 1st prize Johnnie Walker Green Label
- 2nd prize Portable BBQ Grill "Weber"
- 3rd prize Sunday Brunch for 2

Consolation Prizes

- Case of beer
- Beach Chair
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DPS gifted with \$40K narcotics analyzer

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI Department of Public Safety extended their gratitude to the Australian Federal Police for their significant donation of a \$40,000 "TruNarc" Handheld Narcotics Analyzer last Thursday at the DPS headquarters in Susupe.

Detective Sgt. Jason Ford of the AFP presented DPS Commissioner Anthony Macaranas with the cutting-edge technology and the gesture was made as both groups seek to bolster law enforcement capabilities against the proliferation of illegal narcotics. It was secured through a collaborative effort involving the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police and the Pacific Transnational Crime Network.

The analyzer has the capacity to identify over 530 substances, ranging from nar-

cotics and stimulants to hallucinogens and analgesics. It

promises to revolutionize the CNMI's approach to combat-

ing illegal substances.

"We are immensely grateful



Department of Public Safety Commissioner Anthony Macaranas, second from left, shakes hands with Australian Federal Police Detective Sgt. Jason Ford after receiving the \$40,000 "TruNarc" Handheld Narcotics Analyzer last Thursday at the Department of Public Safety headquarters in Susupe.

IT&E, RNV Construction major sponsors of Pistang Pinoy 2024

IT&E-CNMI and RNV Construction are the major sponsors of this year's Pistang Pinoy, which marks the 126th Independence Day of the Philippines.

The United Filipino Organization-CNMI will hold the annual event on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at the Marianas Business Plaza parking ground in Susupe, from 11am to 6pm. The entire day's event will be filled with games, entertainment, food, and raffle drawings.

The game "Kwarta o Kahon" is the highlight of the

event where one of the game participants will have a chance to win \$500.

UFO is pre-selling raffle tickets for \$1 per ticket. Tickets will also be sold during the event. This year's grand prize is a roundtrip ticket to the Philippines. Cash prizes of \$300, \$200, \$100, and many more consolation prizes will also be raffled.

Aside from thanking IT&E-CNMI and RNV Construction for signing up as major sponsors, UFO would also like to express its gratitude to SuperTech Foundation

for sponsoring the roundtrip ticket to the Philippines as the grand raffle grand prize and Marianas Business Plaza for the event's venue.

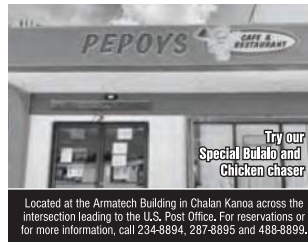
If you wish to join the festivities, contact the following committees:

■ For vendors, contact the members of Saipan Building and Fixing Computer User's Group, namely Mildred Pabilando at (670) 785-0560 and Edmin Elayda at (670) 989-0375.

■ For entertainers, contact the Bayani Association president Annamae Adaza at (670)

285-4388 and secretary Leony Mendoza at (670) 287-7563.

■ For Sponsorship and ads in the annual souvenir booklet, contact the UFO president Birhen Martinez at (670) 483-0915 and secretary Yho Villavicencio at (670) 285-9017. (PR)



Located at the Armatech Building in Chalan Kanoa across the intersection leading to the U.S. Post Office. For reservations or for more information, call 234-8894, 287-8895 and 488-8899.

to the Australian Federal Police, the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, and the Pacific Transnational Crime Network for their generous donation," said assistant chief of police Simon Manacop in a press release last Thursday. "The acquisition of the TruNarc analyzer represents a significant enhancement of our law enforcement capabilities, empowering our officers to swiftly and accurately identify illicit substances."

Equipped with lab-proven spectroscopy technology, the TruNarc analyzer can analyze samples in a matter of seconds, providing law enforcement with real-

time intelligence crucial for proactive intervention and enforcement efforts. Its versatility and speed make it an invaluable tool in the ongoing battle against drug trafficking and substance abuse.

This donation underscores the importance of international collaboration in addressing transnational crime and safeguarding communities against the harmful effects of illicit narcotics. With the TruNarc analyzer now at their disposal, DPS officers are better equipped to detect and deter drug-related activities, hopefully contributing to a safer and more secure CNMI.

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Bill to integrate Parole Board into DOC passes House panel

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations unanimously passed a bill to integrate the Board of Parole into the Department of Corrections.

Last Friday, the House Standing Committee on JGO unanimously voted to pass and approve House Bill 23-105 which essentially integrates the Board of Parole into DOC.

The bill now moves to the full House for a vote.

DOC Commissioner Anthony Torres appeared at the committee meeting last week and provided his comments in advocacy of the bill.

“The transition from incarceration to freedom is a critical phase in an individual’s journey into rehabilitation and successful reintegration into society. By bringing the parole system within the purview of the DOC, we will be able to

provide a seamless, continuum of care and supervision for individuals under our charge,” he said.

Torres said DOC is already continuously working to being in the forefront of providing rehabilitation services and preparing individuals for their return to society.

“By extending our responsibility to include parole, we can assure a more coordinated approach to re-entry with a focus on continuity of care

and support. Consolidating the parole system within the DOC will not only streamline processes, but it would also allow for better collaboration and communication between all stages of the justice system. This integration will enable us to provide more personalized and effective support to individuals as they navigate challenges of re-entering society,” he said.

Torres told the committee that with Parole under DOC,

DOC would have parole policies and procedures aligned with a broader rehabilitation, reintegration, and reduction of recidivism goals.

“By offering parole, the department will aim to promote the successful re-entry of individuals into society while reducing the likelihood of repeating criminal behavior. Parole allows inmates to reintegrate gradually with support and supervision while maintaining a sense of responsibility and accountability. By assessing eligibility and spe-

cific parole conditions, DOC would prioritize the rehabilitation of inmates and their successful reintegration back into the community. This approach emphasizes addressing underlying issues that may contribute to criminal behavior such as substance abuse or mental health issues,” he said.

JGO chair Rep. Marissa Flores (Ind-Saipan) thanked Torres for giving the committee insight on how the integration of the Parole Board into DOC would help individuals re-enter society.

SSHS

From page 1

are Saipan Southern High School’s Class of 2024 top graduates.

Sablan was the school’s valedictorian and recipient of the Board of Education Award, but was awarded in absentia. Lin was the salutatorian and received the Commissioner of Education Award.

The Governor’s Leadership Award was presented to Mechaella De Ramos, while the Lt. Governor’s Leadership Award went to Casey Cruz, who was off-island for the 2024 Oceania Athletics Championships in Suva, Fiji.

The Mayor’s Service Award recipient was Shamira Sulyman, and the Principal’s Award went to Yasmeen Younis.

The Top 10 are Sablan, Lin, Sulyman, Gracie Mendiola, Jobelle Ann Sapo, Jasmine Kyle Saluta, Uirom Park, Aleeza Castro, Sky Gusteen Palacios, and Fatima Rose Ito.

In Lin’s salutatory speech, she started by thanking her teachers and her school’s staff for their passion and dedication for teaching them and guiding them to where they are now.



LEIGH GASES

Salutatorian Jing Lin poses with her Commissioner of Education Award, along with Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, fourth from right, his key staff, and Saipan Southern High School principal Vince Dela Cruz, second right, during the SSHS Class of 2024 graduation ceremony last Monday.

For her parents and family, she said, “your support and help are the reason I am able to stand here today.”

To her fellow graduates, she exclaimed, “We made it! I want you to be proud of yourselves... We have made it through all these challenges—no matter if it was a typhoon, pandemic, or struggle to pass a class. We are entering the next chapter of our lives, so be proud of yourself. It’s you who worked through all of it to make it here to get to the next chapter.”

Their keynote speaker was SSHS English teacher, Suaad

Younis, who stepped off the stage to address the students at the same level who were seated below.

During a part of her speech, she made the graduates close their eyes, take a deep breath, and repeat after her: “I am amazing. I am a graduate of Saipan Southern High School. I am a wonderful human being. I am enough. I love who I am, and who I will become. Biba, Class of 2024!”

For her congratulatory remarks before the presentation of awards, Board of Education acting chair Maisie B. Tenorio said, “If you ever find yourself

in the midst of change and it feels scary, remember what you did today. Use that Manta spirit to give you courage to embrace change. You got this! So again, on behalf of the CNMI State Board of Education, we salute you, we honor you, we celebrate you. Congratulations Saipan Southern High School class of 2024. Go Mantas!”

The welcoming remarks were made by SSHS principal Vince Dela Cruz, while Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho also gave his congratulatory remarks after Tenorio.

“leave without pay” (LWOP) in less than a 12-month period.

“While this was objectively true, it did not constitute a legitimate ground for termination of employment. There were two very big problems with this as a putative basis for termination of employment. First, leave without pay (LWOP) is not proper ground for termination of employment at all. Absence without leave (AWOL) is, but not LWOP. Plaintiff was never AWOL. This is the second problem with the excess absences; plaintiff prepared leave requests for all of her time off, and all of the leave requests were approved. In short, plaintiff had zero unauthorized leave,” Woodruff argues.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

GOV

From page 1

resolve them.

In an interview with Terlaje, she explained that last April, CUC met with Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and his staff and reached an agreement to reconcile delinquent government utility accounts.

In total, Terlaje said the CNMI government owes CUC \$13 million in arrears.

Based on CUC and the CNMI’s government’s reconciliation agreement, the CNMI government would reconcile 15 accounts at a time and would be given 30-days to pay 25% of the reconciled amount. This will continue until the arrears are paid off in 2027.

“When we had our status conference with [U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge] David Carter at the end of February, the judge had asked for the governor and his staff to come in and they did and agreed to pay their bill moving forward as well as arrears which amounted to \$13 million. They agreed to reconcile their accounts with CUC and upon reconciliation, they were given a timeline to reconcile it. Every time they would reconcile, they would pay 25% of the accounts they reconciled, and every year after that they’d pay another 25% until the arrears have been paid off. So, based on this, the \$13 million should be paid off by 2027 and the

CNMI government should be current on their bills moving forward after that,” she said.

The latest reconciliation, Terlaje said, was made last May 1 and based off of the first 15 reconciled accounts, the total in arrears was about \$10 million. Terlaje said as of last week, the CNMI government has made its promised 25% payment which is about \$2.5 million.

“They have met the 25% for the May reconciliation. So how it works, they reconcile May 1, and they have 30 days to pay that. Then, they are supposed to reconcile the next 15 accounts by June 1, and they have 30 days to pay that. This continues until all accounts are reconciled,” she said.

Terlaje said aside from the May reconciliation, the CNMI government had reconciled about \$1.7 million following their initial meeting back in April.

“The CNMI government has already reconciled \$1.7 million, that was the amount that they agreed to pay when we first met. Then they have reconciled their first 15 accounts which amounted over \$10 million, and they’ve paid 25%. They’ve been paying in instalments but as of last week, they have paid the full 25%. Now, the next reconciliation that is supposed to wrap up by June 1, that 25%, they have 30 days to pay that, and that will continue until all the accounts are reconciled,” Terlaje said.

ACT

From page 1

Americans with Disabilities Act after terminating an employee with a disability without valid reason.

Last Monday, through attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, former Department of Commerce employee Ann Maureen S. Attao filed a lawsuit with the U.S. District Court for the NMI against Commerce, its former secretary Edward Deleon Guerrero, its acting secretary Francisco Cabrera, and the Civil Service Commission. The lawsuit alleges a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act after Attao was terminated without valid reason.

“Plaintiff brings this action...for declaratory and injunctive relief and damages to correct legal wrongs and

compensate for injuries suffered on account of acts and omissions of defendants in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act and in contravention of CNMI law,” said the lawsuit.

Aside from declaratory and injunctive relief and damages, plaintiff further seeks damages, declaratory judgment, and injunctive relief with respect to injuries sustained.

According to the lawsuit, Attao was hired by the CNMI Department of Commerce on Nov. 8, 2021, with employment commencing Jan. 2, 2022, as a clerk typist III under limited term appointment not to exceed Sept. 30, 2022. She was assigned to the Workers Compensation Commission Division of the Department of Commerce under the supervision of division director Cabrera.

The lawsuit notes that Attao

suffers from diabetes, diabetic neuropathy, high cholesterol, asthma, and anxiety, all recognized disabilities under federal law. She adds that the defendants were made aware of her disabilities in February 2022.

“At all times during her employment with the CNMI Department of Commerce plaintiff maintained an exemplary work performance aside from absences necessitated mostly by medical needs associated with her disability and related medications, and by jury duty required by law,” said Woodruff.

On May 26, 2022, the lawsuit states that Attao was served with a “notice of termination for cause” signed by former secretary Guerrero stating that her employment would be terminated in 14 days.

The first reason for termination given in the notice was that plaintiff had 108 hours of

CONTEST

From page 1

favorite photo of Saipan, Rota, or Tinian in the Marianas with the hashtags #MyMarianas, #TheMarianas, #CapturetheBeautyofTheMarianas2024, and #VistTheMarianas. Winning second place was an aerial view of Micro Beach on Saipan, submitted by Justin Poon. In third place was a sun-splashed photo of the House of Taga in Tinian, submitted by Anan Khan.

“The beauty of the Marianas as seen through the lens of those who live or visit here is one of the best ways of sharing

our beautiful islands with the world and enticing more visitors to explore Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for themselves,” said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. “Congratulations to all the winners, and we encourage everyone to continue using these hashtags to promote the Marianas every month of the year.”

Javier, Poon, and Khan were awarded \$300, \$200, and \$100 in cash prizes. Photos submitted featured Marianas’ attractions, including historical or cultural sites, beaches, or others. The contest was held as part of May Marianas Tourism Month. (PR)

Financial security, gratitude attitude, and insurance go hand-in-hand

By JESSICA D. SABLAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

For most of us, insurance is something we take for granted. Life isn't always smooth sailing, and many of us view having insurance as a necessary evil. We develop anxiety at the thought of going through a claims process and never look forward to paying premiums. However, cultivating an attitude of personal financial security and gratitude can help us appreciate the value of insurance when life's unexpected events occur. In this article, we'll explore the connection between financial security, gratitude and insurance, and how they can work together to bring us greater peace of mind.

Stress over life's uncertainties

Life is full of uncertainty. From minor inconveniences to major catastrophes, we never know exactly what each day might bring. When it comes to insurance perspective, people can be divided into two groups: those who need security in their lives to be able to sleep at night and those who do not consider the possibility of a disaster a serious matter. The stress of uncertainty affects both groups differently. While one group plans for those uncertainties ahead of time to avoid feelings of stress and anxiety in times of need, another group waits till disaster strikes before realizing their predicament and scrambles to correct the problem.

This is where insurance comes in. Insurance provides financial security against the unexpected. When we have proper insurance coverage, we can worry less about the outcome when the inevitable happens. Whether it's health insurance to pay unexpected medical bills or homeowners' insurance to rebuild or repair after a fire outbreak, having insurance coverage gives us more confidence to face the future.

Establishing the right insurance policies whether it's for personal or business takes time and effort in the beginning but once they're in place, we can relax knowing support will be there when the need arises. We demonstrate foresight and responsibility when we insure our cars, homes, health, life, businesses, and more. We show we've done our best to stay proactive by anticipating and mitigating risks. This preparation and diligence bring reassurance.

Gratitude in times of need

Having insurance coverage in place should make us more grateful. Appreciating that there is an option to securing

personal wealth and one that would catch us when we encounter rough waters matters. We're thankful we had the resources and wisdom to put protections in place before disaster strikes.

Insurance allows you to recover from an accident, illness, or other disaster. You need to understand how much of a lifeline that insurance was during your time of need.

Appreciation grows for having the foresight to invest in insurance protection. Insurance no longer seems like just another bill but rather an integral part of your financial security and becomes an investment to minimize financial loss.

Cultivating an attitude of gratitude helps us appreciate insurance most when we need it. When faced with an unexpected loss or disaster, it's easy to focus on the negative parts of the experience. However, maintaining gratefulness during life's hardest moments has benefits.

Intentionally appreciating the support your insurance provides during a crisis keeps things in perspective. Consider it part of your mental health and well-being so you can focus your day-to-day activities worry-free. It's easy to

take this support for granted or think of it as just a payout you're entitled to. Replacing this mentality with feelings of gratitude that there are options for times of despair helps you recognize the value of insurance.

Focusing on gratitude during difficult times also reduces stress. Dwelling on how unlucky you are or how unfair life is can escalate feelings of helplessness. Instead, being grateful you had protection and aid can comfort and uplift you.

Maintaining peace of mind

At the end of the day, insurance provides peace of mind. Knowing you've done your due diligence to prepare and protect yourself allows you to sleep better at night. Having strong insurance in place reduces worry about what could happen and provides confidence to enjoy life more.

As well as financial support, insurance gives the mental assurance that you and your family will be fine when or if disaster strikes. That is a comfort that money cannot buy. Knowing you'll have

access to quality healthcare, resources to rebuild and repair, or income to support loved ones when you're gone—this is the invaluable security insurance provides.

For this reason, it is wise to visit your agent and review your policies periodically. As life changes with marriage, children, and assets, your risks and needs change as well. Reviewing your policies and limits periodically always ensures adequate protection.

Appreciating insurance providers and agents

Maintaining an attitude of gratitude extends also to appreciating insurance professionals. The agents, customer service representatives, and claims adjusters handling your policies and claims are an invaluable lifeline when you need them. Despite dealing with anxious clients daily, these individuals look forward to providing care and gentle human interaction during your time of need.

Next time you see your insurance agent, take a moment to thank them for their expertise and guidance. Recognize the mountain of regulatory compliance and ongoing education they must undertake to serve you well.

Shared responsibility

Lastly, remember that insurance is a two-way street. Paying premiums does entitle you to coverage, but following the terms of your policy is essential. Filing claims ethically, providing prompt notice of issues, and fully cooperating with your insurer will ensure a smooth process. Mutual understanding and accountability benefits all.

Maintaining an attitude of gratitude helps us recognize the immense value of insurance in our lives. Appreciating financial protection before disaster strikes

motivates us to proactively secure it and invest in it. Gratitude shifts our perspective to find hope amid turmoil.

Insurance gives us stability and certainty. Gratitude gives us joy and perspective. Together they offer the means to weather life's storms.

Jessica D. Sablan is Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. operations manager overseeing the underwriting and claims department of the company. Sablan celebrates her 25th silver anniversary this year.



Sablan

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Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER
OF THE PETITION
TO APPOINT GENERAL
GUARDIANSHIP FOR:

ROAN ACE R. SALES,

Minor Child

By: JASMINE R. SALES
Petitioner.

FCD-CU CIVIL
ACTION NO.
24-0139

NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITIONER'S
PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF
GENERAL
GUARDIANSHIP

Date: June 17, 2024
Time: 9:00 A.M.
JUDGE: Teresa Kim-Tenorio

NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Court shall hear
the above-entitled matter on this 17th day of June,
2024 at 9:00 a.m., for Petitioner Jasmine R. Sales's
Notice of Hearing on Petition for Appointment of
General Guardianship. The parties are directed to be
present at the hearing at which time the Court shall
consider the Petition.
SO ORDERED on this 8th day of April, 2024.

/s/
Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ., F0122
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POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
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ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS
HOUSING CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

vs.



The ESTATE OF CARMEN
T. ANDON and SAMUEL
M. ANDON,

Defendants.

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the
Court in this matter on April 16, 2024, I will sell, at public auction, to
the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth
hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to
the following property:
Legal description of the property:
Lot 011 G 308, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana
Islands, containing an area of 797 square meters, more or less, as
shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat
no. 011 G 06 dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's
File no. 93-4414, dated December 16, 1993, the description therein
being incorporated herein by reference.
Total area of the property: 797 square meters
Known encumbrances:
Mortgage in favor of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation,
Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 04-2542, and Real Estate
Deed of Trust dated October 22, 2004, Commonwealth
Recorder's File no. 04-2544. The net proceeds of sale will be
applied towards satisfaction of the aforesaid encumbrances.
Date, Time, and Place of Sale: The sale will be held on Friday, July
12, 2024, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White,
LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale
will be open to the general public. Copies of a title insurance report for the
properties are available to any prospective bidder upon request.
Terms and Conditions of Sale: The Terms and Conditions of Sale
may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale.
These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.
DATED, this 28th day of May, 2024:

/s/
MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-24-026

CUSTOMIZED SEWER LINE INSPECTION & GROUTING TRUCK ACQUISITION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified Vendors for the Customized Sewer Line Inspection & Grouting Truck Acquisition in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The IFB Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-24-026, Customized Sewer Line Inspection & Grouting Truck Acquisition"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 3, 2024** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal, or courier service must be received on or before the due date and time or post-marked before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this IFB should consider all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the proponent's obligation upon award of a contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 10, 2024**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC's Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Rodolfo Rodriguez, Water/Wastewater Division Manager via email rodolfo.rodriguez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bidders for any reason and to waive any defects in said IFB, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NMHC JVA No.	Positions:	Salary	Opening Date	Closing Date
2024-018	CDBG-DR Housing Specialist (1-Position)	UNGRADED \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00 Per annum	June 5, 2024	June 20, 2024 4:00 PM

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information can be accessed at www.nmhcgov.net and www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com.

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; the CDBG-DR Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Ladera Building, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road; or email application and documents to officemanager@nmhcgov.net.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

When it comes to taming inflation, the consumer—not the president—is king

Pundits keep chirping about how voters want President Joe Biden to do something to bring prices down, particularly at the grocery store. Biden defenders claim that a president has few powers at their disposal to make essential goods like food cheaper. Levers that politicians can potentially pull—remember wage and price controls in the early 1970s?—tend to do more harm than good.

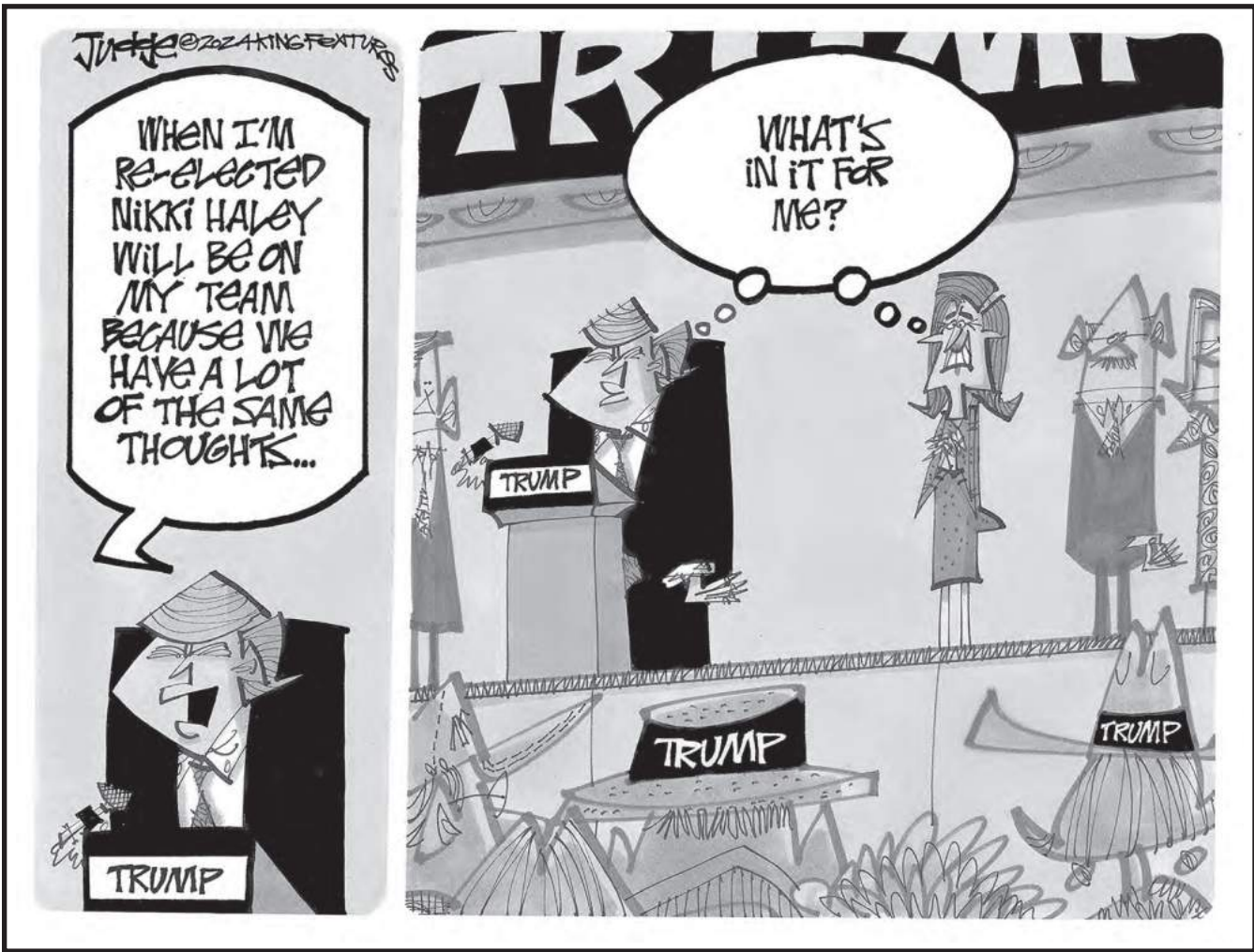
Here's the thing, though. Consumers, acting collectively, do have the power to force companies to charge less. And they're exercising that authority now in ways that have grabbed corporate America's attention.

Target, Walmart and Aldi, among others, are cutting prices on thousands of food items, including name brands, and in some cases trumpeting the lower charges in press releases. Consumers haven't been sitting idly by, waiting for big-box stores to act. Shoppers increasingly are shunning the name brands they used to buy at their local grocery stores in favor of cheaper private-label alternatives. Last year, 22% of sales at grocers were for private-label offerings, the highest share ever recorded, according to the Wall Street Journal.

That percentage is likely only to increase this year, at least judging by the comments of food-company CEOs, who say they're struggling to maintain sales of their name brands following several years of price hikes that have touched off the consumer revolt. The risk for those name-brand companies goes well beyond a few quarters of soft sales. Food shopping is a habitual practice. Once a consumer decides the private-label version tastes just as good as an official Oreo, it's a struggle to win them back. And in most cases, they do.

There are few areas of our economy more competitive than food. The profit margins at grocers always have been notoriously thin. Some companies undoubtedly took more than full advantage of their newfound pricing power following the pandemic and the supply-chain disruptions that kicked off this inflationary era. They're getting their comeuppance now, it appears, and are responding accordingly.

All of this is to say that the good old competitive market is far more effective at taming inflation than any politician, no matter how powerful or popular, ever can be. It's encouraging to see the beginnings of a price correction that we hope will make everyday Americans' lives easier.



Why Trump's lies didn't work in a courtroom

The historic felony conviction of former President Donald Trump marks a meaningful victory for the beleaguered American legal system and a win for truth over falsehood.

Three other criminal trials involving Trump have bogged down for various reasons. Two impeachments by the House of Representatives ended in partisan votes against conviction in the Senate. But in an ordinary New York courtroom, 12 men and women considered the evidence, weighed Trump's various defenses, and concluded beyond a reasonable doubt that he was lying.

Trump has gotten away with lying to an extent unmatched in US history, and he may get away with it again in the November presidential election. In the courtroom, however, truth prevailed. That matters.

Understanding why Trump was convicted can tell us a lot about how the criminal justice system differs from large-scale electoral politics—and why the former is more resistant to the problem of lies and misinformation.

In court, Trump's lawyers adopted a strategy of brazen falsehood, denying every element of the prosecution's case, up to and including the allegation that Trump had a sexual encounter with adult film actress and director Stormy Daniels.

As any lawyer could tell you (and many legal commentators did, as the trial played out), this was a legally risky strategy. Trump had a better option: He could have admitted the affair and the cover-up and asserted that he was simply trying to avoid personal embarrassment and never knowingly intended to falsify records. That would have given his legal team a better chance of undercutting the basis of the felony charges against him: that he falsified the records to interfere with the 2016 election.

It seems pretty clear that the reason Trump's lawyer went with the deny-everything approach is that it represented the essence of Trump's entire (and largely successful) strategy throughout his political and business careers. Trump has come to learn that he can forcefully and regularly assert things that are patently untrue, and that plenty of the public will still vote for him.

Some of his supporters believe his lies literally, accepting, for example, that he really won in 2020. But much of the Trump-supporting public—it's hard to say exactly how much—believe Trump's lies in a more metaphorical fashion. That is, they believe there are forces out to get Trump and that in some grand sense those forces cost him the presidency in 2020. Either way, his supporters don't have to test his lies against any concrete evidence. They can vote and act on the basis of a general feeling.

Not so in a courtroom. There, the authority figure of the judge

By NOAH FELDMAN
Bloomberg Opinion

Noah Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. A professor of law at Harvard University, he is author, most recently, of "To Be a Jew Today: A New Guide to God, Israel, and the Jewish People."



(notably absent in the political context) tells the jurors what counts as evidence, spells out what law they should apply, and specifies what conclusions they should reach depending on what facts they believe after hearing the evidence.

Then, prosecutors trained in presenting facts lay out the evidence and propose reasons to believe that evidence. Crucially, the jurors have no choice but to listen, again unlike the domain of politics, where you can choose what information you're willing to hear and from which sources. The defense gets the opportunity to question the prosecution's factual assertions, to be sure. But the fight in the courtroom is supposed to be a fair one, with each side entitled to equal time. If the prosecution's case is convincing beyond a reasonable doubt, the defendant gets convicted. The rules of the game are designed to expose the truth.

Under these idealized courtroom circumstances, Trump was sure to be convicted. It's no exaggeration to say that, if charged and tried in this way, he very likely would have been convicted in any court in the land, even in a venue dominated by Republican voters. He simply didn't offer a defense that would function plausibly in a court of law, as opposed to the court of public opinion.

To be sure, the overwhelming majority of criminal cases never go to a jury at all. There is much to be said about the failings of the criminal justice system when it is all plea-bargaining. In Trump's case, however, the jury trial embodied exactly what is supposed to happen in a criminal case: The facts were tested and the truth won.

If the criminal justice system were on trial alongside Trump, and came through with flying colors, the next test is our system of electoral politics. Now, we voters are on trial. Are we capable of accepting the factual truth that Trump is now a convicted felon? Can we translate that into the political truth that the president of the United States should not be a liar who has been criminally convicted in a court of law? That is a much different, and much harder test for us to pass.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Reclaiming the American flag: A symbol of unity in a divided nation

Flag Day is observed annually on June 14, commemorating the adoption of the American flag by the Second Continental Congress in 1777. This day is rooted in a desire to honor the symbol of the nation's values and aspirations, cemented by President Woodrow Wilson's proclamation in 1916 and the official law signed by President Harry Truman in 1949.

Flying the American flag symbolizes national pride, evoking a sense of unity and shared values. It represents freedom, democracy and the relentless pursuit of a more perfect union. The flag has served as a stand-in for the nation for many years, representing a shared identity and a common set of beliefs about the country's meaning. However, as the country has self-sorted into tribes with conflicting identities, Americans are much less likely to agree on what set of beliefs the flag has come to represent. Over time, the flag has become a contentious symbol, representing divergent political views and igniting debate about its meaning. Often, displaying the

flag is seen as aligning with a specific political ideology, commonly associated with conservative values.

Some people have made it a habit to display signs of tribal affiliations alongside their American flag. In more liberal enclaves, you might see a pride flag or a Black Lives Matter flag accompanying the American flag, though more often, these flags fly alone. Conversely, in conservative circles, the American flag is frequently paired with the Gadsden flag, Trump flags, Blue Lives Matter flags and even Confederate flags.

Even as a stand-alone symbol, the American flag can invoke conflicting meanings. It can be inclusive, representing a diverse group united in supporting a broad understanding of freedom. But it can also be exclusive, a symbol of nationalism—an "us" in opposition to a less worthy or virtuous "them."

For many Americans, the flag is a testament to the sacrifices made by countless individuals to uphold the values of liberty and justice. Because so many Americans have died wearing the flag in military pursuits, it's hard not to see it as both a sign of honor for those lives lost and as a symbol of foreign military intervention. This duality can foster feelings of separation among those hesitant to support military interventionist policies.

The flag of our country, by definition, symbolizes nationalism. With a large cohort of the current Republican Party advocating for a form of nationalism—Christian Nationalism—it is understandable that the flag can be seen as affiliated with one political party. The perception of nationalism as exclusionary can also create a sense of alienation for those who feel excluded from this narrative, particularly marginalized communities who have historically struggled to attain the full promise of American democracy.

The flag has also played a significant role in social and political movements throughout American history. During the civil rights movement, activists often carried the flag to symbolize their fight for equality and justice. In recent years, the flag has been prominently featured in protests and rallies, whether flown by those advocating for social change or those resisting it, highlighting its dual role as a symbol of unity and dissent.

Americans with varied beliefs continue to feel a sense of ownership in their country while assigning meaning to the flag based

By KRISTINA BECVAR
The Fulcrum

Kristina Becvar is co-publisher of *The Fulcrum* and executive director of the *Bridge Alliance Education Fund*, the parent organization of *The Fulcrum*.



on their beliefs. However, we are missing the cohesion that came from a time when we had a more widely shared identity. The challenge, then, lies in reclaiming the flag as a unifying symbol that transcends political divides in a time with more diversity in America than ever. The flag, a symbol that should represent all Americans, has the potential to embody the diverse tapestry of cultures, beliefs and experiences that define the nation. It should remind us of our collective responsibility to strive for a society where everyone can enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that the flag symbolizes, inspiring us all to work towards a common goal of unity and shared values.

To achieve this, engaging in open, respectful dialogue about what the flag means to different people is crucial. By actively listening to each other's perspectives, we can begin to heal the divisions and reclaim the flag as a symbol of inclusivity and shared values. This process requires acknowledging the flag's complex history and the different ways it is perceived while also reaffirming our commitment to the core principles that unite us as a nation. We can pave the way for a more inclusive and united America by fostering understanding and empathy through dialogue.

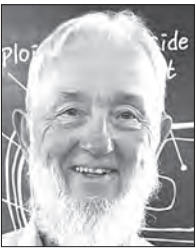
The American flag should not be a symbol of division but a reminder of our collective journey toward a more equitable and just society. It is time to reframe the flag to represent our shared aspirations and a beacon of hope for all Americans. By doing so, we can honor the true spirit of the flag and the ideals it stands for, fostering a sense of unity and pride that encompasses our nation's rich diversity.

Between the immensities

LITERARY NOOK
By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey aka "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. Joey is the Poet Laureate of Tinian, celebrating 40 years in the CNMI.



DEMENTIA DIARY DAILY DELIBERATIONS

An old fellow was walking down a country road.
A passerby asked him how things were going?
The man replied, "Oh I'm stumbling along between the immensities," The passerby asked, "What are the immensities?" "Well, they are birth and death," said the old fellow." We all stumble and fall over many things in our lives. The poems and articles under this heading reflect my stumbling and dealing with walking through life in general, picking up the pieces.

DAYDREAM: THE MAN IN THE MIRROR

Have I ever met that person before
I have to think about that some more
Recalling that face is really a chore
Maybe by tomorrow I'll remember

Once a long time ago I knew that man
Was it in divorce court or at a wedding
The exact location I'm forgetting
What kind of weather? June or December

Seems I know that face from an ocean swim
Have I heard him sing an old gospel hymn
Was he once really fat now he's looking slim
Could he have been a jug band member

My memories coming back it's getting clearer
Why it's my face reflected in the mirror.

SHORT MEMORY OLFACTORY MYSTERY

I think I have done that twice
or maybe I did that thrice
should I follow my own advice
and do it one more time again
I don't remember the first
for some instant recall I thirst
short term memory's getting worse
it comes back every now and then
my longterm memory is great
I recall many an old birth date
what I did will just have to wait
just how long has it really been.
Can't remember when all this started.
What's that smell? Was it me that farted?

Father's Day challenge—neckties are out

I admire Ben Mankiewicz, the host of Turner Classic Movies. He is the man we all think we are in our dreams: handsome, urbane, authoritative, and oh-so-charming—a member of one of the great families of film, an aristocrat of that realm.

I would like to look like Ben; his job is appealing, too.

But wait, Ben has suffered a savage downfall. He isn't the man he used to be to me. I nearly fell off the couch when I saw Ben, an inspiration to men, introducing a movie without his necktie.

Yes, Ben was open-collared in a suit, looking a little like an unmade bed, which is what most men look like when pursuing the current fashion of no necktie.

Shock! Horror! Another bastion of masculinity has fallen.

The problem — and I aver this to be an unassailable truth—is men wearing dress shirts without ties look less than their best. If they have a bit of age on them, a lot less than their best.

The dress shirt, which hasn't been replaced, is designed for a necktie, long or in a bow. Without the tie, men look diminished, incomplete, as though they had to leave the house without time to finish dressing.

Let me state that the necktie is indeed a useless piece of clothing, like other dress items of the past: spats, watch chains and detached collars. The passing of none of these do I regret—but ties? Cry, the lost masculine adornment of yesteryear.

The necktie was something a man could glory in. Tying a long tie and throwing the long end over the short end always gave me the same feeling as mounting my horse; when my right leg cleared the saddle, I knew something good was going to happen. A great day in the Virginia countryside, usually.

Ties were something to treasure; fine silk, splendid patterns, elegance written with restraint. Just long enough, just obvious enough, conveying refinement and masculine savoir-faire. Now, men are running around open-necked in shirts that weren't designed to be worn that way.

Have a care for the great names in ties. Those who saved us on Father's Day, Christmas and birthdays are losing money or gone to other pursuits.

By LLEWELLYN KING
Tribune News Service

Llewellyn King is the executive producer and host of "White House Chronicle" on PBS. He wrote this for *InsideSources.com*.



Have a care for Hermes, Liberty, Tyrwhitt, Brioni, Fumagalli, Brooks Brothers and all those who created lovely things for the neck out of silk, finely woven wool or linen.

Just the sight of the box lit up the male face, ensuring the giver some future preferment or an extra helping at the table. The power of the tie was formidable—as Omar Khayyam, the Persian poet, might have said, it could transmute life's leaden metal into gold.

At least it kept Dad smiling through some de rigueur family events. Ever noticed how he slipped off to the bathroom not to engage the porcelain but to admire himself in the mirror with the new gift around his neck?

Not so long ago, great restaurants had spare ties for guests who showed up without them. Now that is over.






The last holdout I know of is the Metropolitan Club in Washington. I have been to two events there recently, and the hosts thought it wise to advise their guests on dress etiquette: ties and no white-soled shoes. But no cravats or ascots as well. Strange.

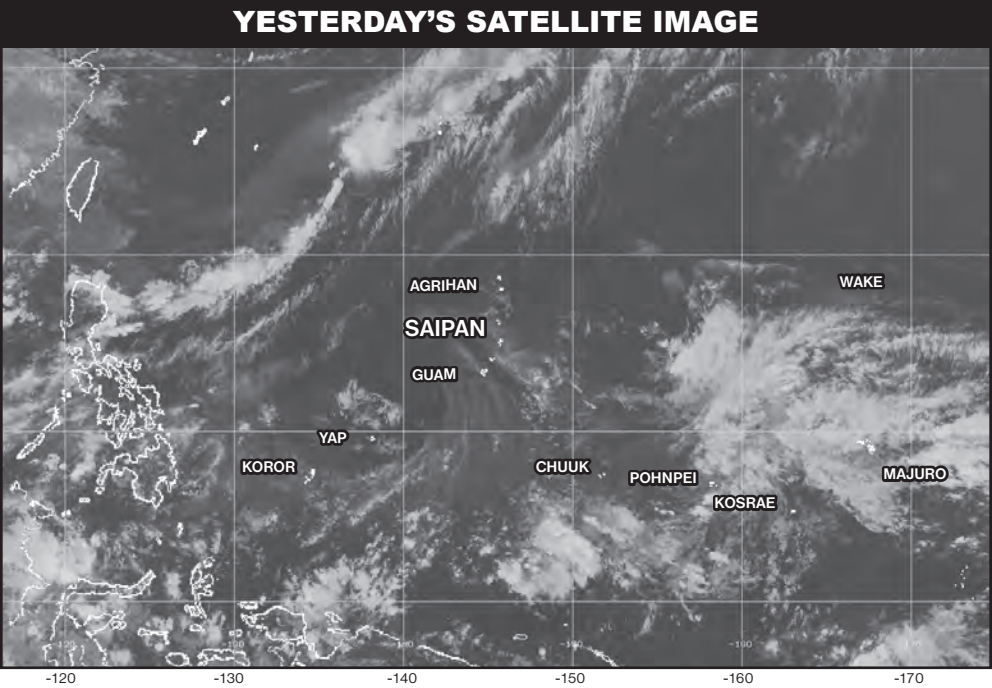
I hope the cravat or its cousin, the ascot, will come back vigorously. It will save those master craftspeople who dyed silk, wove wool and shaped their handiwork over canvas to adorn men's necks of no practical value but so dressy, so uplifting, so defining.

Give a cravat, and tell the man in your life or your father, "You look like David Niven."

Come to think of it, I bet Ben Mankiewicz looks stupendous wearing a cravat.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. A slight chance of thunderstorms during the afternoon hours. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	
88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°



Gentle to moderate trades prevail in the region, with satellite imagery indicating a minor disturbance just south of Guam`s coastal waters. Latest altimetry passes indicate seas are 3 to 4 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Friday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	5:45 AM	6:46 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	4:11 AM	5:31 PM	-
Thursday	5:03 AM	6:35 PM	-
Friday	5:59 AM	7:37 PM	-
Saturday	6:57 AM	8:35 PM	-
Sunday	7:57 AM	9:28 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	55° / 48°	
Beijing	Fair	90° / 64°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86° / 74°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 75°	
London	Cloudy	73° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	73° / 58°	
Manila	Fair	97° / 83°	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	57° / 48°	
Miami	Sunny	85° / 78°	
New York	Cloudy	80° / 65°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	77° / 61°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	79° / 57°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	73° / 61°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	73° / 61°	
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	91° / 67°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	61° / 51°	
Seoul	Sunny	80° / 58°	
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	73° / 60°	
Washington, DC	Cloudy	83° / 64°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:10 AM	Low Tide	1.30	
5:30 AM	High Tide	2.20	
12:57 PM	Low Tide	-0.23	
8:04 PM	High Tide	2.06	

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2024

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
				7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	TW307	8:15PM	1:40AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5	HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

31 SIS middle school students complete coral reef conservation course

Thirty-one enthusiastic middle school students from Saipan International School have successfully completed the PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Course, demonstrating SIS' commitment to marine conservation and environmental stewardship. The comprehensive program included a classroom session, an immersive field trip to Mañagaha Island, and a detailed knowledge review test.

The Coral Reef Conservation Course, a cornerstone of the PADI AWARE curriculum, educates participants about the vital role that coral reefs play in marine ecosystems and the significant threats they face.

Through a blend of theoretical learning and hands-on experience, the students gained a deeper understanding of coral biology, reef ecosystems, and conservation strategies.

The journey began with classroom session, where students were introduced to the importance of coral reefs to our island's way of life and the challenges they encounter. The session was led by Dr. Ron Snyder, SIS headmaster and PADI Open Water instructor who provided insights into coral formation, the biodiversity supported by reefs, and the impact of human activities



Saipan International School coral reef conservation participants on Mañagaha Island.

on these delicate ecosystems.

Following the classroom instruction, the students embarked on a full-day field trip to the Mañagaha Island. There, they observed coral reefs firsthand, participated in teamwork building sessions and ensured the beach was cleaner than they found it. This practical experience allowed them to witness the beauty and fragility of coral reefs up close, reinforcing the need for proactive conservation efforts.

The program culminated with a sit-down knowledge review test, where students

demonstrated their understanding of the course material. The test covered a range of topics, including coral reef ecology, conservation practices, and the significance of marine protected areas. Thirty students passed the knowledge review, earning their PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation certification and the rest will have another chance when they come back to school in August. Also participating in the course was April Liske-Clark, who teaches middle school and high school life sciences and runs the school's plastic recycling project.

"We are incredibly proud of our students and their passion for conservation," said Snyder. "This achievement not highlights their commitment to preserving the beauty of Saipan in a way that everyone will continue to be able to use its resources for generations to come."

The PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Course is part of a broader initiative by Saipan International School to integrate environmental education into the curriculum. By providing students with opportunities to engage in real-world conservation activities, the school aims to foster a generation of environmentally

conscious individuals.

Certified students are the following:

Grade 6

- Andrea An
- Juny Kim
- Cooper Koning Fong
- Jenna Pascual
- Philip Seman
- Kanoa Owens
- Quido Jambor

Grade 7

- Michael Jan Frederic M. Guintu
- Zoe Rovnan
- Yiming Li
- Eliza Culp
- Yewon Huh
- James Xiong

- Skyler Bom Rhee
- Keoni Ryu Ruszala
- Matthew Szeffler
- Selina Santiago
- Philip Peng
- Olivia Zhang
- Jiayi Li
- Jebro Leon
- Faith Arriola

Grade 8

- Nancie Huang
- Addalee Taflinger
- Lya Kim
- Theo Joab
- Ashlynn Han
- Yeji Jang
- Jacob Kim
- Tianhui Wan
- William Guo

For more information about the PADI AWARE Coral Reef Conservation Course or to learn about other environmental programs at Saipan International School, contact Dr. Ron Snyder at (670) 288-9660.

About Saipan International School

Saipan International School is dedicated to providing a comprehensive education that emphasizes academic excellence, environmental stewardship, and community involvement. Through a variety of innovative programs, the school strives to inspire students to become responsible global citizens. (PR)



SIS middle school students enroute to Mañagaha Island.

A. Samoa's Radewagen honors Memorial Day



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) with a World War II veteran in London.

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) is honoring Memorial Day 2024.

"Throughout the history of the United States, in every generation, there have been brave Service members who gave all for the country, for others, and the cause of freedom," said Radewagen. "On other important holidays, we honor all our military and veterans as each one has taken on the possibility of making that greatest sacrifice. Memorial Day is special in remembrance of those who never came home from the fields of battle."

"In our islands' 124-year history as part of the U.S., many of our Toa o Samoa have

served with honor, distinction, and valor, and some of them gave their lives. A 2009 analysis of the war in Iraq verified that our people had given more lives per capita than any other part of the United States. We cherish their memories as family and friends, but also heroes and patriots."

"Currently, there are serious wars in several regions of the world, and while we pray for peace, we rely on the readiness of our strong U.S. military," concluded Radewagen. "This Memorial Day, we think of all these honored departed, the blessings of freedom, and especially our own dear military families remembering a loved one," she said. (PR)

WANTED: CORRESPONDENTS

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

is looking for correspondents.

Qualifications:

- Passion for writing
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- Has a nose for news
- Comfortable with interviewing people
- Team player

Perks

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- You'll learn (almost) everything under the sun
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Email your application and résumé to Akira Kadokura at akira_kadokura@tanholdings.com or drop them off at the HR office on the second floor of the JP Center building in Garapan, Saipan.

Business

Sincerely Saipan Destinations to hold kickoff party on June 6

Sincerely Saipan Destinations is excited to announce the launch of the island's first LGBTQ+ tour and wedding destination company. To mark this historic occasion, the company invites everyone to a spectacular launch party on June 6 from 6pm to 9pm at Mama Rio's Cafe on Coral Tree Avenue.

This event kicks off World Pride Month with a free community and business celebration open to all. Co-sponsored by Mama Rio's Cafe, the evening promises an unforgettable experience filled with

generous raffle prizes from our local sponsors, entertainment, and a warm welcome to diversity and inclusion.

"Sincerely Saipan Destinations aims to create a welcoming and affirming space for the LGBTQ+ community and their allies," said PK Phommachanh-Daigo, co-founder of Sincerely Saipan Destinations. "Our launch is not just a celebration of our services but a statement of our commitment to inclusivity and diversity on this beautiful island," added Myla Deets, co-founder.

Attendees will enjoy an eve-

ning of mingling, entertainment, and the chance to win amazing prizes, all while supporting a business dedicated to fostering inclusivity and celebrating love in all its forms.

The company looks forward to celebrating this momentous occasion with the community and forging new partnerships and friendships.

Local sponsors, who have graciously contributed to the raffle and event prizes, include the following:

- Hafa Adai Rent A Car/Joeten Motors
- Island Skin Solutions

- Ina's Kitchen
- Pho Tam
- Office Rep Vince Aldan
- The Cookie Shop
- Velleza Salon
- Athlete's Foot
- Committee to Elect Ed Propst
- Office of Rep Diego Camacho
- Turnkey Solutions
- Island Training Solutions
- Office of Rep Marissa Flores
- First Lady Wella Palacios
- Latte Built



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sincerely Saipan Destinations co-founders PK Phommachanh-Daigo, left, and Myla Deets.

- DB Media
- Pride Marianas
- Last Shot Bar
- Eleven Restobar
- Manuel's Catering
- Tom Yum Restaurant
- LaBine & Associates
- MyCaptures Photography

To RSVP, click on <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sincerely-saipan-mixer-tickets-909630658787>.

sincerely-saipan-mixer-tickets-909630658787.

For more information, contact PK Phommachanh-Daigo at (670) 286-3010. You can also reach out to them via their website: www.sincerely-saipan.com or their social media accounts—Facebook: SincerelySaipan and Instagram: SincerelySaipan (PR)

CUC new executive director to speak at Chamber June meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its June general membership meeting on Wednesday, June 5, from 11:30am to 1pm at the Queens Hall of Kensington Hotel Saipan.

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Kevin Watson and Renewable Energy engineer Yvonne Ogunmoro will serve as guest speakers, while member spotlight presenter *Marianas Variety* will share information on their Best of the Marianas program.

Chamber committee chairs will also share updates about recent and future

plans and activities. Lastly, the Chamber and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands will talk about their effort on Operation 500K.

Lunch fee for the general membership is \$35 for Chamber members and \$40 for future Chamber members. This fee includes a delicious lunch, networking opportunities, and insightful discussions.

To register for the June general membership, you may RSVP by visiting the following link:

<https://business.saipanchamber.com/events/details/2024-june-general-membership-meeting-466?calendarMonth=2024-06-01> or you may contact the Chamber office at (670) 234-7150 or send us an email at contact@saipanchamber.org.

The Chamber is a non-profit organization with approximately 140 members dedicated to promoting the economic growth and development of the CNMI. The Chamber serves as the collective voice of the business community, advocating for their interests, fostering collaboration, and driving initiatives that support the local economy. (PR)

GRMC to open Urology Center this July

DEDED, Guam—Guam Regional Medical City is expanding its scope of specialty care to provide urology services, which is the treatment of surgical and medical diseases of the urinary tract system and the male reproductive system.

Beginning Monday, July 1, 2024, GRMC will open its new Urology Center that will be led by local urologists, Dr. Ann Fenton and Dr. Virgilio Petero from the former Guam Urology Clinic.

G R M C chief executive officer Dr. Alexander

"Beau" Wielaard said, "We are excited for Drs. Fenton and Petero to join our team to help GRMC expand urology care on Guam. This marks a significant milestone in our journey towards strengthening our island's healthcare infrastructure by expanding locally accessible and high-quality specialty care. With a team of highly skilled urologists equipped with the latest medical technologies, GRMC will be able to grow a wide range of diagnostic, therapeutic, and surgical interventions tailored to better serve the healthcare needs of our community."

Fenton is a board-certified urologist, who has been practicing medicine for over 25 years. Her primary areas of interest include urolithiasis, urethral obstruction and disease, urologic endoscopy, and prostate disease.

Fenton earned her medical degree from the Tulane Uni-

versity School of Medicine in Louisiana and completed residency in Texas at the Wilford Hall Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center, and the University of Texas Health Science Center. She is certified by the American Board of Urology and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Similarly, Petero is a practicing urologist with over 20 years of experience and is certified by the Philippine Board of Urology and the American Society of Transplant Surgeons. His special

interests include Genito-urinary malignancies, renal surgery, urolithiasis, and prostate diseases. Petero completed his education in the Philippines, earning his medical degree at the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City and his residency at the University of Santo Thomas in Manila. He later completed Kidney Transplant Training at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

For those seeking urology services or more information, contact GRMC's Referral Management Office at (671) 633-4762 (GRMC) or email refer@grmc.gu. New and existing patients of Fenton and Petero can be seen at the GRMC Urology Center beginning July 1, 2024. Prior to booking an appointment, patients should obtain a referral from their primary care provider. (PR)

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Life & Style

Janis Paige, star of Hollywood and Broadway, dies at 101

NEW YORK (AP)—Janis Paige, a popular actor in Hollywood and in Broadway musicals and comedies who danced with Fred Astaire, toured with Bob Hope and continued to perform into her 90s, has died. She was 101.

Paige died Sunday of natural causes at her Los Angeles home, longtime friend Stuart Lampert said Monday.

Paige starred on Broadway with Jackie Cooper in the mystery-comedy, “Remains to be Seen” and appeared with John Raitt in the smash hit musical “The Pajama Game.”

Her other films included a Hope comedy, “Bachelor in Paradise”; the Doris Day comedy “Please Don’t Eat the Daisies” and “Follow the Boys.”

In 2018, she added her voice to the #MeToo movement, alleging an assault when she was 22 by the late department-store heir Alfred Bloomingdale, who died in 1982.

“I could feel his hands, not only on my breasts, but seemingly everywhere. He was big and strong, and I began to fight, kick, bite and scream,” she wrote. “At 95, time is not on my side, and neither is si-



Bob Hope and Janis Paige hug during the annual Christmas show in Saigon, Vietnam, Dec. 25, 1964.

lence. I simply want to add my name and say, ‘Me too.’”

Paige’s big break came in wartime when she sang an operatic aria for servicemen at the Hollywood Canteen. MGM hired her a day later for a brief role in “Bathing Beauty”—she spoke two lines in the film, which starred Esther Williams and Red Skelton—then dropped her.

The same day, Warner Bros. signed her and cast her in a dramatic segment of the all-star movie “Hollywood Canteen.”

Her contract started at \$150 a week. “I earned more per week than my mother had made in a month during the Great Depression,” she recalled in The Hollywood Reporter in 2018.

Her salary rose to \$1,000 weekly as the studio kept her busy in lightweight films such as “Two Guys from Milwaukee,” “The Time, the Place and the Girl,” “Love and Learn,” “Always Together,” “Wallflower” and “Romance on the High Seas,” which marked Doris Day’s film debut.

Sean Kingston booked into Florida jail, where he and mother are charged with \$1M in fraud

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Rapper and singer Sean Kingston is back in South Florida, where he and his mother are charged with committing more than a million dollars’ worth of fraud.

Kingston, 34, was booked into the Broward County jail on Sunday, according to jail records. He was arrested May 23 at Fort Irwin, an Army training base in California’s Mojave Desert where he was performing. Last week, he waived his right to fight extradition in a California court and agreed to be turned over to authorities in Florida.

Kingston’s mother, 61-year-old Janice Turner, was arrested the same day as her son, when a SWAT team raided his rented mansion in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Kingston and Turner have been charged with conducting



Sean Kingston arrives at the 40th Anniversary American Music Awards on Sunday Nov. 18, 2012, in Los Angeles.

an organized scheme to defraud, grand theft, identity theft and related crimes, according to arrest warrants released by the Broward County Sheriff’s Office. The warrants allege they stole money, jewelry, a Cadillac Escalade and furniture.

The Jamaican American performer had a No. 1 hit with “Beautiful Girls” in 2007 and collaborated with Justin Bieber on the song “Eenie Meenie.”

Robert Rosenblatt, an attorney for Kingston and his

mother, previously said they looked forward to addressing the charges in a Florida court and “are confident of a successful resolution.”

The warrants in the case say that from October to March they stole almost \$500,000 in jewelry, more than \$200,000 from Bank of America, \$160,000 from the Escalade dealer, more than \$100,000 from First Republic Bank and \$86,000 from the maker of customized beds. Specifics were not given.

Kingston, whose legal name is Kisean Anderson, was already serving a two-year probation sentence for trafficking stolen property.

His mother pleaded guilty in 2006 to bank fraud for stealing over \$160,000 and served nearly 1.5 years in prison, according to federal court records.

Michael Douglas pays solidarity visit to southern Israel

JERUSALEM (AP)—Actor Michael Douglas on Sunday paid a solidarity visit to an Israeli kibbutz that was hit hard in the Oct. 7 Hamas attack that sparked Israel’s war against the Islamic militant group.

Douglas met with members of Kibbutz Be’eri and visited burnt-out homes destroyed in the Oct. 7 attack. Be’eri was among the hardest hit communities, with roughly 100 people killed and 30 others taken hostage.

Douglas said he met families of hostages and visited the scene of a music party where over 300 people were killed.

He also met with Israel’s president, Isaac Herzog, who presented the actor with an Israeli dog tag necklace and small pin of a yellow ribbon—symbols of solidarity with

the dozens of hostages who remain in Hamas captivity.

“It’s a very difficult time. You sense the deep shock of this whole experience,” Douglas said, expressing hope that the hostages would be released soon.

Douglas also lashed out at pro-Palestinian protesters on American campuses—claiming that many have been subjected to “brainwashing.”

“When you try to talk to many of them, there is no education. There’s no knowledge,” he said.

Douglas is the latest in a line of American celebrities and politicians who have visited Israel and toured the southern area near the Gaza border since Oct. 7.



Douglas

After 25 years with girlfriend, man remains married to wife

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my partner, “Hank,” for 25 years, but although he is legally separated, he is still married. We have lived together for 24 of these 25 years. He has two adult children with his wife. I used to be married and have two adult children with my ex-husband. Hank and I have one child together (now an adult), as well.

Should I be concerned that he isn’t divorced? He keeps telling me he wants to, and I refuse to bug him about it because I don’t want him to think I’m nagging him. I love him and I know he loves me as well. Should I walk away after all this time, or should I nag him?

UNSETTLED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR UNSETTLED: I don’t think you clearly understand what the fact that Hank is still legally married means for your own future. If something should happen to him, HIS WIFE, not you, will be making all medical decisions for her husband, including whether he can have visitors. She would be entitled to evict you from the house and keep the contents if his name is on the deed. She would be the one to decide what would happen to his remains. You would be left with nothing and no legal leg to stand on.

Please discuss this with a lawyer who can give you more detail about the horror story that may lie ahead. Once you understand all the implications, discuss this with Hank, who should formally do now what he should have done a

quarter of a century ago.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I live on a nice, quiet street. My three neighbors are elderly. The single gentleman next door is fighting pancreatic cancer. The other two men have been showing interest in his house “if anything happens.” One of them even went over for a visit acting like he was a friend. After a few minutes, he mentioned he’d be interested in the house if he was going to be selling it. I am very upset that he would be so nervy and insensitive as to approach this guy! I want to let him know how I feel. My wife says I need to let it go. And you, Abby?

HATES VULTURES IN ILLINOIS

DEAR HATES VULTURES: I will assume that you know about this because your next-door neighbor told you. While I agree that approaching the man took a lot of guts, it is possible that the approach wasn’t regarded as offensive.

We don’t know what your neighbor’s estate plan involves or who will administer it in the event of his death. Knowing the name of the executor who will be handling matters after the inevitable happens would ease the process. That’s why I am advising you not to stir the pot. Your wife is right. You may wind up living next door to these people — unless someone outbids them.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: When my son was in the second grade, his teacher recommended counseling because she thought he was

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



introverted. We blew her off. Decades later, we found out our son had been molested by a family member. It started when he was in the second grade. We are devastated and reeling from guilt. How do we move forward and help our son?

GRIEVING IN THE WEST

DEAR GRIEVING: You do now what you should have done when your son was in second grade and his teacher spotted a problem: Seek a referral to a licensed psychotherapist for ALL of you.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

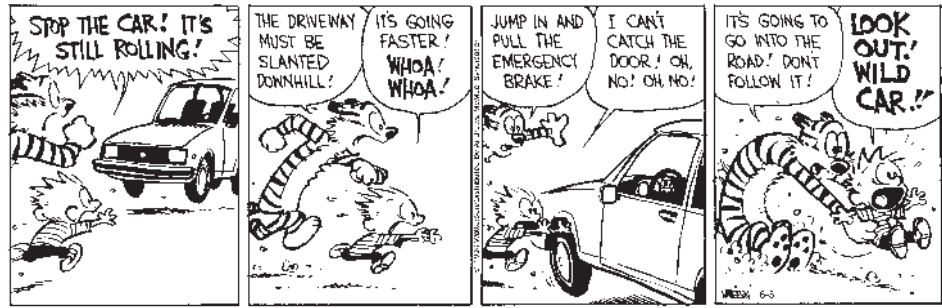
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

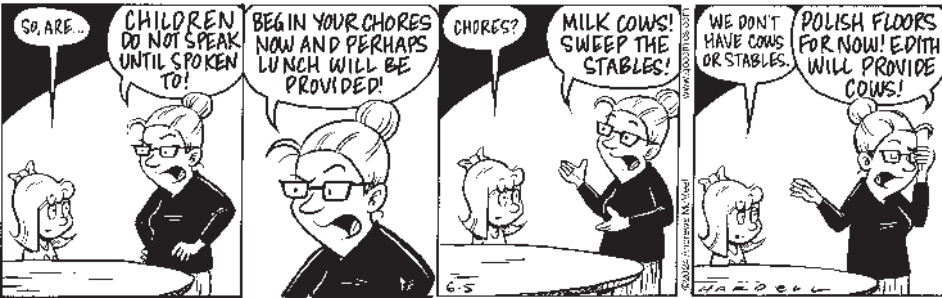


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Free ticket 5 Shock partner 8 C&W legend McEntire 12 Canyon come-back 13 Blend 14 Farm team 15 "Grey's Anatomy" actor 17 Sports figure? 18 Hit the max 19 Bracelet dangles 21 Observe 22 Poet Teasdale 23 "The Simpsons" barkeep 26 Young dog 28 King with "gill" issues? 31 Melville captain 33 Yearbook gp. 35 Paris airport

36 Baseball's Joe 38 Ordinal suffix 40 Longing 41 Hanoi holidays 43 "Yucky!" 45 Go over again 47 Trimmed a toptail 51 Early auto-maker 52 Place of great wealth 54 Blind part 55 "Don't — stranger!" 56 Crisp cookie 57 Robert of "Airplane!"

58 Succor 59 Docile

DOWN 1 Incubator noise 2 Estate measure 3 Actor LaBeouf 4 Foot warmers 5 Mozart's middle name 6 Victory 7 Biz bigwigs 8 Actress Dawson 9 Martini specification 10 Smile broadly 11 Pantry pests

16 Profound 20 Breakfast meat 23 Wrestling surface 24 Discoverer's call 25 April celebration 27 Opposite of "post-" 29 Hearty brew 30 Wd. from Roget 32 Chicken choices 34 Member of a blended family 37 UFO crew 39 Protagonist 42 Biblical realm 44 German sausage — Hasenah 46 First lady of scat 48 "Peter Pan" dog 49 Dutch export 50 Blockhead 53 Floral necklace

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-5

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mike Fisher, 44; Mark Wahlberg, 53; Ron Livingston, 57; Jeff Garlin, 62.

Happy Birthday: Put your heart and soul into fact-finding, learning and making a difference. How you react to what's happening around you will set the stage for the year. Take a deep breath and proceed with light, love and a sense of humor. Let your intellect lead the way and your charm win the hearts of those who can make your life complete. Personal improvement, love and happiness are favored. Your numbers are 4, 11, 23, 26, 31, 35, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Pay attention to money matters, physical and mental health, and the changes that will make your life easier. Keep tabs on what others do and anything that might limit your progress. Put your energy to good use. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A change will improve your mindset and push you in a sensible direction. Determination coupled with innovative ideas will lead to peace of mind and a track record that makes you proud. Take a moment to reflect and recognize your talents and prospects. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Move into high gear and don't look back. It's time to bypass anything that slows you down and head for the finish line. Your enthusiasm and smart moves will wow some and make others jealous. Do your thing and pat yourself on the back. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll have the right mix of creativity and courage to make headway. Put any jitters you have on the back burner and proceed with confidence. Don't succumb to anger if someone gets in your

way. Choose to outsmart rather than break down; you will rise and shine. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll dazzle the crowd if you step into the limelight. Partnerships will flourish if you apply lessons from past mistakes. Look on the bright side and let curiosity take over. Your playful questions will bring you the answers you need to move forward with confidence and courage. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't hesitate to take a pass if something feels wrong. An opportunity is only good if it benefits you directly. Question the motives of others before you pay into something questionable. Choose to keep your personal information safe and your life stress-free. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put more time and effort into your surroundings, comfort and convenience. Learn as you go, and don't be afraid to ask direct questions. Getting the best results depends on the information you receive. Opportunity is apparent if you are bold and do your due diligence. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Refrain from following someone else; if you want to change, devise your plan and turn it into a reality. Consider how to turn the tables to work in your favor with a smile and an incentive in your back pocket. Give someone a friendly nudge. Financial gain is favored. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone with charisma will grab your attention, but before you get involved, consider their agenda. The hype appears lopsided in favor of who's doling out the information. A little research will go a long way in protecting you from heartache or financial setbacks. *****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Embrace opportunity and dismiss setback. Don't waste time or energy on people or situations that don't favor you. Be firm, say no when necessary and ease stress. It's up to you to make your life easier and more affordable. Good decisions lead to peace of mind. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make a move or change because you can and want to, not because someone is coercing you. Put your energy into home, family and opportunities, and use common sense, precision and dedication to master up what's necessary to seize the moment, and something good will unfold. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Set guidelines and boundaries before someone takes advantage of you. It's up to you to implement the changes necessary to make your life easier. Listen carefully and consider the difference between truth and fiction. ****

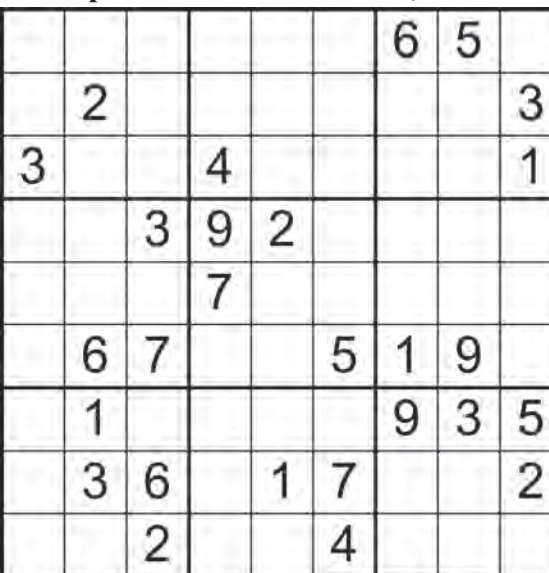
Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, thoughtful and curious. You are forceful and engaging.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

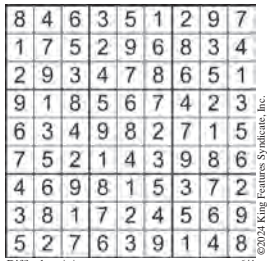
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty: ★★★ 6/5 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DAIKON Solution: 9 letters

P O T A S S I U M R E D N E T
V E G E T A B L E S D E E S
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Dahl goes deep in Phillies debut to key 3-1 win over Brewers

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Rhys Hoskins homered for the Milwaukee Brewers in his return to Citizens Bank Park, but David Dahl went deep in his Philadelphia debut to back Zack Wheeler and the Phillies in a 3-1 victory Monday night.

In the opener of a three-game series between National League division leaders, Edmundo Sosa and Johan Rojas hit consecutive RBI singles in the second inning at the bottom of Philadelphia's batting order.

Wheeler (7-3) pitched seven strong innings, allowing five hits and three walks with six strikeouts. José Alvarado worked a 1-2-3 ninth for his 10th save.

The only run Wheeler gave up was a homer in the seventh by Hoskins, who spent the first seven years of his career with the Phillies. He was sidelined throughout his final season while recovering from a knee injury, then signed with the Brewers as a free agent in January.

In an emotional return, the popular Hoskins was greeted with a standing ovation from the sellout crowd as well as his former Phillies teammates and coaches. He replied by tipping his cap in acknowledgment.

"There definitely were (tears)," Hoskins said. "I have to say that's a first for me. ... I've seen it a bunch here. It's what this fanbase does and will do. I was just overwhelmed with emotion there. I'll get to tell this story. It was really memorable, for sure."

In the seventh, Hoskins launched a 2-1 fastball from Wheeler over the left-field wall for his 10th homer of the season.

Dahl arrived at the ballpark a couple of hours before the first pitch for his first major league game since April 4, 2023, with San Diego. The veteran outfielder was promoted from the minors to replace Brandon Marsh, who was put on the 10-day injured list with a left hamstring strain.

In the fourth, Dahl lined a full-count fastball from Bryse Wilson into the right-field seats for a solo shot that made it 3-1. It was Dahl's first big league homer since April 3, 2023, giving him his first multi-hit game in the majors since July 25, 2021, with Texas.

"David can hit," Phillies manager Rob Thomson said. "Going into the offseason we talked about depth, and the front office went out and got it because there's going to be injuries. ... It's a long year. Credit to our player-development system for keeping these guys sharp and get them go-



AP
Philadelphia Phillies catcher J.T. Realmuto, front left, tags out Milwaukee Brewers' Rhys Hoskins, right, during the fifth inning of a baseball game, Monday, June 3, 2024, in Philadelphia.

ing. It was great to see."

Dahl also singled in his first at-bat, picking up where he left off at Triple-A Lehigh Valley, where he was leading the team in batting average (.340), hits (50) and home runs (12). Selected 10th overall by Colorado in the 2012 amateur draft, Dahl made the NL All-Star team in 2019 with the Rockies, but his career has been derailed by injuries.

Dahl said he didn't have time to think about playing because he didn't know he was in the lineup until he was arriving at the ballpark.

"I was just kind of hanging out at the hotel and watching Netflix when I got the call from (general manager) Sam (Fuld) that I was going up. So, I had to go over to the field and pack up and I didn't find out I was in the lineup until I was 20 minutes away," Dahl said. "I think it helped because I wasn't sitting around thinking about it. I was able to just say, 'Let's go play.'"

Hoskins surprised the Phillies by stealing second base in the fifth, but he was cut down at the plate on a throw from Rojas in center field on a hit by Blake Perkins.

"He's not really a runner," Wheeler joked about his former teammate. "I wasn't changing up my looks at all. ... He got an easy bag right there."

Wilson (3-2) worked 5 2/3 innings in relief of opener Jared Koenig and allowed three runs on six hits.

ORIOLES 7, BLUE JAYS 2

TORONTO (AP)—Austin Hays hit two home runs and Grayson Rodriguez pitched two-run ball into the seventh inning, helping Baltimore beat Toronto.

Anthony Santander and Ramón Urías also went deep as Baltimore won for the ninth time in 11 games. The Orioles are 31-11 when they hit more than one home run.

Colton Cowser added an RBI double as Baltimore improved to 12-4 against AL East opponents.

Rodriguez (6-2) allowed one earned run and seven hits in 6 2/3 innings in his first win in four career starts against Toronto. He struck out four and walked none.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit a solo drive for his sixth homer for the Blue Jays. Guerrero has 23 career home runs against Baltimore, his most against any opponent.

METS 8, NATIONALS 7

WASHINGTON (AP)—Jose Iglesias had three hits, including a go-ahead single in the fifth inning, and Mark Vientos homered as the New York Mets held off Washington.

New York's beleaguered bullpen nearly coughed up another late lead. Washington scored two runs in the ninth charged to Adam Ottavino, but Jake Diekmann threw a called third strike past Drew Millas with runners at the corners for his second save.

The scuffling Mets have lost six games since May 1 when leading after eight innings.

Starling Marte also had three hits and scored twice for New York in the first meeting this season between the NL East foes. No. 9 batter Luis Torrens delivered a two-run double in his second start with the Mets.

TIGERS 2, RANGERS 1
ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Jake Rogers homered

twice, including a tiebreaking drive in the eighth inning, and Detroit beat Texas 2-1 to get back to .500.

A West Texas native who lives in the Dallas suburb of Frisco, Rogers hit a two-out homer in the third against Nathan Eovaldi and a 1-1 cut fastball from José Leclerc (3-4) just inside the left field foul pole with two outs in the eighth. The 29-year-old Rogers had the third two-homer game of his big league career and doubled his season home run total.

Beau Brieske (1-0) struck out four in three scoreless innings, allowing Ezequiel Durán's two-out double in the ninth before retiring Leody Taveras on a flyout.

Detroit (30-30) has won two straight.

Rangers manager Bruce Bochy missed the game because of what the team said was a personal matter, and he was expected back Tuesday. Associate manager Will Venable ran the team.

Texas (29-31) had won five of six following a 2-12 skid. The Rangers outhit Detroit 8-4 but went 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position and stranded eight runners.

REDS 13, ROCKIES 3

DENVER (AP)—Will Benson drove in three runs, Jeimer Candelario and Tyler Stephenson each hit a two-run home run, and Cincinnati blew past Colorado.

The 13 runs were a season-high for the Reds, who have won seven of their past 10 games after starting the season 20-30.

Despite entering the match-up 29th among 30 MLB teams in batting average and hits, Cincinnati had its way with

the Rockies' pitchers, racking up 18 hits, with each of the nine players in its starting lineup getting at least one hit. The 18 hits were tied for the most Colorado has allowed in a game this season.

Jonathan India and Spencer Steer finished three hits apiece for the Reds, though India's career-high six-game walk streak was snapped.

Candelario had two extra-base hits, with his seventh home run of the season and his team-leading 14th double. Steer has eight hits in 14 at-bats over his past three games. Stephenson's ninth-inning home run was his sixth of the season.

Andrew Abbott (4-5) earned his third win in five starts, giving up three earned runs and striking out six across six innings.

Colorado's Brendan Rodgers hit a solo home run in the third inning, his second homer in the past five games after going 29 consecutive games without hitting one. Brenton Doyle added three hits for the Rockies.

ASTROS 7, CARDINALS 4

HOUSTON (AP)—Alex Bregman and Yainer Diaz homered in the eighth inning, helping Houston top St. Louis.

Bregman tied it at 4 when he hit a leadoff drive to left off JoJo Romero (2-1). It was Bregman's fifth homer in his last seven games and No. 9 on the season.

With two outs and Jake Meyers aboard, Diaz homered off the wall in left for his fourth on the year. Chas McCormick then reached on an error on shortstop Masyn Winn and swiped second ahead of Jose Altuve's RBI double.

Rafael Montero (1-1) got three outs for the win, and Josh Hader worked the ninth for his ninth save.

Yordan Alvarez hit a two-run homer, helping the Astros to the win after Kyle Tucker departed in the third inning after fouling a ball off his right shin.

Nolan Gorman homered twice and Alec Burleson also went deep for the Cardinals, who lost for the third time in four games.

ANGELS 2, PADRES 1

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Jo Adell doubled and scored the tiebreaking run on two flyouts in the eighth inning, sending the Los Angeles Angels to a victory over San Diego.

Tyler Anderson pitched into the seventh and Willie Calhoun had an early RBI single for the Angels, who snapped their five-game losing streak. Calhoun had two of the Halos' four hits as they improved the worst home record in the majors to 8-21 in the opener of a six-game homestand.

Adell led off the eighth with a double off the right-field wall against Adrian Morejon (1-1). Adell moved to third on Zach Neto's flyout and scored easily on pinch-hitter Luis Guillorme's long sacrifice fly to center off Jeremiah Estrada.

Manny Machado homered for the Padres, who lost their second straight after a 5-1 surge. San Diego's powerful lineup failed to score after the first inning and went 0 for 6 with runners in scoring position.

Hunter Strickland (2-1) escaped two jams before Angels closer Carlo Estévez finished for his ninth save.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, GIANTS 2

PHOENIX (AP)—Pinch-hitter Pavin Smith connected for a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift Arizona over San Francisco.

Jake McCarthy got the winning rally started with a looping, one-out double down the left field line. Then Smith—hitting for Eugenio Suárez—smashed a pitch from Randy Rodríguez (1-1) that barely cleared the yellow line above the wall in center.

The D-backs have won three straight while the Giants have dropped a season-high five in a row.

Diamondbacks right-hander Ryne Nelson gave up two runs over 7 2/3 innings, which was the longest outing of his career. He yielded six hits and struck out one.

Ryan Thompson (3-2) earned the win after 1 1/3 scoreless innings.

Celtics favored to win Game 1, but money is rolling in on the Mavericks



LAS VEGAS (AP) — The

Celtics are prohibitive favorites to win Thursday's Game 1 of the NBA Finals and odds are on Boston to hoist what would be its record 18th championship banner.

But the money, at least at BetMGM Sportsbook, is pouring in on the Dallas Mavericks.

Senior trader Halvor Egeland said Monday that 80% of the bets were coming on Luka Doncic, Kyrie Irving and the Mavs to win their second NBA title. Boston is a -225 favorite to win it all, meaning someone would need to wager \$225 to win \$100.

As for the series opener, the Celtics are 6 1/2-point favorites, but 63% of the money has been on the Mavericks to cover the spread. Dallas is receiving 70% of the bets to win the game outright at +200.

"Pretty much, the public is just believing in the Mavericks," Egeland said.

Despite that, the Celtics' odds have remained consistently solid not only at BetMGM but other sportsbooks as well. Even though Egeland said professional bettors are largely sitting out this series because they don't find much betting value, he said he didn't expect the lines to be significantly affected.

"We feel it's the correct betting line," Egeland said. "If we were trading strictly off money, we would've moved it towards the Mavericks because



The Dallas Mavericks pose for a team photograph after a win over the Minnesota Timberwolves in Game 5 of the Western Conference finals in the NBA basketball playoffs Thursday, May 30, 2024, in Minneapolis. AP

it's all Mavericks money. But we're trying to get to a point where we're at like an equilibrium — half the time (betting is) going to be on one side, half the time it's going to go on the other. We've landed at 6 1/2 and that's the strategy you take."

Egeland said there's a reason the Celtics are favored.

"The Celtics had an 82-game season and they've been the best team all year," he said. "I know they haven't had the

toughest competition to get to the Finals, but like I said, they've had 82 games to prove themselves, and they've done nothing but show you that they're that good of a team."

THE PORZINGIS FACTOR

Part of the reason for the opening-game spread, Egeland said, is the expected return of Boston's Kristaps Porzingis. He hasn't played since straining his left calf in Game 4 of

the opening round against the Miami Heat.

Porzingis not only would give the Celtics size if he is back, but the 7-footer is an effective 3-point shooter, creating a difficult matchup for the Mavs. He averaged 20.1 points and 7.2 rebounds during the regular season.

Egeland said if the Celtics have to sit Porzingis yet again, they likely would drop to 4 1/2- or 5-point favorites.

"The team's been pretty

good without him," DraftKings sportsbook operations director Johnny Avello said. "So with him, it makes them even that much better. Will he be able to get back into the mix kind of quickly? I think so. This series could be a seven-game series, so any bodies you can get in there and contribute, they are welcome for both sides."

RUST VS. REST

Both teams have received extended time off to prepare for

this series after the Celtics swept the Indiana Pacers and the Mavericks eliminated the Minnesota Timberwolves in five games.

"I would say the Mavs had it a little bit harder than the Celts did, so maybe (the lay-off) would affect the Celtics more since they didn't get pushed much," Avello said. "The Mavs' 4-1 (series victory) wasn't really reflective of how that series went, although you consider the Celtics, too. They could've lost an early game (to Indiana). It certainly would've changed the complexion of that series."

Egeland said the extra prep time should especially benefit Porzingis, but also noted that Doncic has been playing on a gimpy knee and ankle.

M-V-P!

Jayson Tatum is a -120 favorite to be the Finals MVP at BetMGM, but Doncic is close behind at +200. DraftKings has Doncic at -205 and Tatum at +280, nearly a complete flip from late last week.

"He's taking more money," Avello said of Doncic before the odds changed.

HOW LONG CAN IT GO?

The odds at BetMGM favor the series ending in anywhere between five and seven games, with the odds ranging from +200 to +225. A sweep is at +450.

DraftKings is even more bullish on a long series, posting the chances of it going six or seven games at -150 compared to +125 to be shorter.

Kidd passes on vindication as he leads Mavs to NBA Finals year after chaotic finish

DALLAS (AP)—Jason Kidd isn't big on personal vindication.

Leading the Dallas Mavericks to the NBA Finals as their coach 13 years after he was the point guard on the franchise's only championship team means more to Kidd than proving he was right about Luka Doncic and Kyrie Irving needing time to grow into a title-seeking tandem.

There's part of the 51-year-old, a Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame player, who believes he doesn't have much to prove at all.

"I know how to win," Kidd said. "Done that since elementary school, to the highest level. I've won gold medals. I've won championships. And I've won a championship as a coach, assistant coach. Now I get the opportunity to do it as a head coach."

When the Mavericks tip off at the Boston Celtics in Game 1 on Thursday night, they'll be three months removed from a 1-6 slide that once again had pundits questioning how much longer Kidd would be

the coach in Dallas.

The Mavs will be almost 14 months removed from Kidd dealing with questions about his job security and the club's curious decision to quit with two games left, still with a chance to make the postseason.

The Doncic-Irving pairing had faltered in the two months after the blockbuster trade that brought Irving from Brooklyn in 2023. Never mind that just a year earlier, Kidd's coaching debut in Dallas ended with Doncic's first trip to the Western Conference finals.

"You have to go through some failures I suppose to really believe it's going to work," said Kidd, whose title as an assistant came with the Los Angeles Lakers in the 2020 playoff bubble. "We weren't very good. But it's OK. As much as people feel like they should be traded or fired because of failures, it's sometimes sad. We had to go through it."

Now, Kidd will try become the eighth person to win a title as a player and coach for the

same franchise. Seven more have done both with different franchises.

Kidd did it by giving the mix of perennial All-Stars Irving and Doncic time to marinate, and persuading the offensive wizards to play defense.

"He understands me and Kyrie's role because he's been in that role," Doncic said of the two-time Olympic gold medal winner. "So he helps us a lot. But everybody. He kept everybody together. We were down a lot, especially during the season. It was ups and downs all the time, but he kept us together."

Kidd and his staff pivoted with the midseason trades for P.J. Washington, a 3-and-D wing, and Daniel Gafford, a pick-and-rolling rim protector to add depth at center with rookie Dereck Lively II.

A team that started the season with Kidd's mantra of "our offense is our defense" morphed into a defense-first group similar to his first season in 2021-22.

Here's the bottom line.

In the 10 seasons from

the 2011 championship to Kidd's arrival as coach, the Mavs didn't win a playoff series. They've won five in his three seasons, losing to Golden State in the West finals two years ago.

"It doesn't happen a lot you go from the lottery to the finals," Kidd said, referring to the draft pick the Mavs preserved—and turned into Lively—by tanking at the end of 2022-23. "But we truly believed that we had the pieces. Sometimes you take a step back to view what you have."

Even after the Mavs felt they had found the right mix, the 1-6 slide came after a seven-game winning streak. They were six games over .500 and flirting with the play-in tournament, which would have put Dallas at risk of missing consecutive playoffs after such a promising start under Kidd.

A 16-2 stretch followed, vaulting the Mavericks to fifth in the West. Now they've won three series without home-court advantage and will try to do it again. Houston, at No. 6 in 1995, is the only lower seed

to win a championship.

"I think at one of the points in the season, everyone thought the world was coming to an end," Kidd said. "But we kept coming to work. We were positive and things kind of turned around for the better. I think that's just who we are. It's just about trust, about working and having fun at the same time."

The Mavericks are a reflection of their coach, stoic in the face of the criticism and questions a year ago, with maybe a little vitriol sprinkled in when there's a feeling of, "That's enough."

Kidd has long preached it's OK to fail, which left an impression on Lively as the 20-year-old quickly blossomed into an impact player the club wasn't necessarily expecting this soon.

"He's putting me in positions where he's expecting me to fail, and even if I fail, he's going to leave me in there to learn," Lively said. "He's walking into the locker room and then asking, what do we think? Being able to have a

coach like that who's going to make the players speak, make the players talk to one another and then say what he thinks, is an amazing process."

Kidd dropped an expletive on a reporter last year when asked about the vote of confidence he got from then-owner Mark Cuban as the season fizzled at the finish, essentially saying those questions weren't being asked during the 2022 West finals run.

A 10-time All-Star who is second in career assists behind John Stockton, Kidd looks back on that chaos with a shrug.

"You guys ask all the tough questions. These are tough questions," Kidd said. "You guys are doing your job. As the head coach of the Mavericks, I'm doing my job. They were tough questions last year, tough questions that will come from this series. I will give you the answer. Some may like it. Some may not."

Either way, Kidd has a contract extension. He got that just after the first of his three series victories this spring.

Djokovic wins record 370th Slam match but isn't sure he can continue



PARIS (AP)—Novak Djokovic was laying on his back on a French Open sideline early in the second set Monday, wincing while his injured right knee was manipulated by a trainer—and worrying that he might need to quit playing the match.

After stumbling and limping around, then finding himself down by a set and a break against a younger, eager opponent, Djokovic regained his verve with the help of what he said a tournament doctor told him was the maximum dose of pills allowed to dull the pain and reduce any inflammation.

So, yes, Djokovic kept at it and came back to win in five sets across about 4 1/2 hours for the second consecutive time, surging past No. 23 Francisco Cerundolo 6-1, 5-7, 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 in the fourth round at Roland Garros for his record 370th win in a Grand Slam match. But here's the catch: Djokovic said he could not be certain whether he would be healthy enough to play in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

"I don't know what will happen tomorrow—or after tomorrow, if I'll be able to step out on the court and play," the 37-year-old Djokovic said. "You know, I hope so. Let's see what happens."

Djokovic said the knee has bothered him for a couple of weeks, chalking it up to wear and tear, and it



Serbia's Novak Djokovic receives medical assistance for his right knee during his fourth round match of the French Open tennis tournament against Argentina's Francisco Cerundolo at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Monday, June 3, 2024.

got worse after he tweaked it against Cerundolo. Djokovic took a medical timeout at 2-1 in the second set, was treated by the trainer on subsequent changeovers, and was given more medicine after the third set.

"I didn't know, to be honest," Djokovic said, "whether I should continue or not."

Eventually, he felt better and could move without restrictions, and his level of play soared accordingly.

This was the second consecutive five-set comeback victory that lasted about 4 1/2 hours for Djokovic, who is ranked No. 1 and the defending

champion in Paris. He said that accumulation of time was not a problem; his knee was, however.

Djokovic is supposed to meet No. 7 seed Casper Ruud on Wednesday. Ruud, who eliminated No. 12 Taylor Fritz 7-6 (6), 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 Monday, lost to Djokovic in the French Open final last year and to Rafael Nadal in the 2022 title match.

"The effect of the medications will not last for too long, so I'll see," Djokovic said. "I guess we'll do some more screening and tests and checkups tomorrow."

The questions about his status took

attention away from the latest in the long series of Djokovic's monumental achievements. Beating Cerundolo allowed Djokovic to break a tie with Roger Federer for the most match wins at major tournaments—and also for the most Slam quarterfinals for a man, reaching the 59th of his career.

But just barely. Djokovic trailed by two sets to one, and was down a break at 4-2 in the fourth, putting him two games from defeat.

"I was," Djokovic said afterward, "maybe three or four points away from losing this match."

Still, he came through in ways he has so often over his years of dominance and 24 major trophies, a total that includes three at the French Open. He both turned around a contest after trailing—go ahead and ask Federer about holding match points against the guy — and emerging when the tension is greatest. Djokovic is 40-11 in fifth sets over his career; compare that with Cerundolo's 1-3 mark, and the outcome should surprise no one.

"Really, the toughest guy ever to play tennis," Cerundolo said. "He always finds a way to come back and play his best tennis at the toughest moments and at the end of every match."

At 2-1 in the crucible of the fifth set, Djokovic's feet gave way as he chased a ball to his right, and he rolled on the ground, caking his white shorts, his red shirt and parts of his

arms and legs with the rust-colored clay. As he walked to the sideline to grab a bottle of water to clean off, he gave a piece of his mind to anyone who would listen, renewing an earlier complaint about wanting the court to be swept to improve traction.

"Well done, supervisor and everybody," Djokovic said, his voice drenched in sarcasm. "Not slippery at all."

At his news conference, he restated his concerns and his disappointment in the decision to not do more about the clay.

"I mean, today I injured myself. Yes, I survived. I won the match. Great. But will I be able to play next one?" he said, tapping his palms on a table for emphasis. "I don't know. I don't know the severity of the injury. But could have this injury be prevented? Possibly, if there was just a little bit more of a frequent care of the court during the set."

In the third round, he made his way past No. 30 Lorenzo Musetti, a 22-year-old from Italy, finishing Sunday after 3 a.m., the latest finish in French Open history.

Against Cerundolo, a 25-year-old from Argentina who was trying to reach his first Grand Slam quarterfinal, Djokovic again used all of his skills, experience and ability to adjust on the fly. He came through, in part, by putting extra speed on his groundstrokes.

AGUON

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very excited."

"I'm very blessed and grateful that I have this opportunity to play a sport I love while representing my island home at the same time," said Ogumoro.

Aguon, with Ogumoro's build, said, "Of course at 6'5," I welcome anybody with that height. If only we had a couple more... but he's a good addition to us. It's going to make us competitive. As for medaling, it's all up to us once we get there and see the competition."

Another possible addition might be Philippine Basketball Association all-star player and champion Jericho Cruz, who lived on Saipan and was a member of the NMI National Basketball Team. "It's a 50/50 pos-

sibility because they're in the [PBA] finals right now. If they go up to seven games, it's way past the [Micro Games]," said Aguon.

He said that even if the final team roster is now set with Ogumoro, Lucio Aldan, Airson Atan, Aiferson Atan, Douglas Schmidt, Preston Basa, Coby Santos, Chioni Dela Cruz, Greg Sablan, Marvin Rabauliman, DJay Ong, and Jack Lizama, he can still make changes before the basketball technical meeting.

"If he can make it by the time we play on [June] 17th, then I have to make a decision who's going to sit. If not, this is the team," said Aguon.

Aguon added that after a 14-year hiatus from basketball, he couldn't say no to James Lee, president of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation, when he was asked to coach the team this year.

Aguon coached the NMI Men's National Basketball Team in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau, and also coached the team that competed in the 2006 Micronesian Games on Saipan.

The only medal won by the NMI Men's National Basketball Team was silver in the 1994 Micronesian Games in Guam.

TAYLOR

From page 16

received one Michelob Ultra bat and a half case of beer. The runner-up Hideo received a half case of beer, and the third place Techur received one case of beer.

Results of the games last Sunday will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

SBL

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six hits out of nine at bats. Second is the Bandits' Franco Nakamura at .615 from eight out of 13 at-bats. Next is also Bandits' Harry Nakamura, and Sandlots' Lamarc Iguel at .600 each from six out of 10 plate appearances.

In other batting categories, Nokki Saralu has the most RBIs at eight; Byron Kaipat, Darion Jones, and Tony Tenorio have seven each; Franco, Mario Salas, and Pat Tenorio Jr. have six each; and Alden Ngeskebei, Harry, and Luis Iguel are at five each.

Only one home run has been hit each by Ben Flores, Dennis Cabrera,

Eli Aughenbaugh, and Tony.

For the triples, it's only one each as well for Ben Lizama, Derrence Diaz, Kaipo Dikito, Niko Martin, Saralu, Tenorio Jr., Tonchu Norita, and Travis Malwebug.

The most runs scored is 10 by Ariel "J-Boy" Mendiola, Franko, and Lamarc; Saralu and Poland Masaharu have nine each; and Cameron Towai, Jerald Cabrera, Jon Wilson, Kimo Angailen, Thomas Reyes, and Tony have seven each.

As for the doubles, it's a tie of two each for Anthony Dizon, Brian Camacho, Harry, Jerome Delos Santos, Larson Sibetang, and Salas.

Ninety feet away on the mound, Villagomez is the pitching leader

with a 0 ERA, 0 ER, two wins, in two games and 11 innings pitched, with seven hits allowed.

The Falcons' A.J. Evangelista is right behind with a 0 ERA and 0 ER, one win, three hits allowed, in one game and seven innings pitched.

Third is the Royals' Jason Reyes at 0.78 ERA, 1 ER, a 1-1 record, six hits, in two games and nine innings pitched.

The most strikeouts recorded is 16-year-old Aaron Camacho with 21; Jose Lizama is right after at 18; Gloyd Martin has 17; Benji Palacios and Jylon Sablan have 16 each; Jason and Villagomez are at 14 each; R.J. Riungel has 12; and J.J. Takawo recorded 11.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

SBL STANDINGS

Bandits	4	0
Padres	4	0
Falcons	3	0
Cardinals	4	1
Braves	3	2
Royals	3	2
Blue Jays	2	2
Sandlot	2	2
Bears	1	3
D-9er's	1	3
White Sox	1	3
Blue Shark	0	5
Natives	0	5

SBL BATTING LEADERS (Based on 9 or more times at Bat)

Name	Team	AB	Hits	Ave.
Marvin Ngeskebei	Royals	9	6	.667
Franco Nakamura	Bandits	13	8	.615
Harry Nakamura	Bandits	10	6	.600
Lamarc Iguel	Sandlot	10	6	.600
Dennis Cabrera	Bears	12	6	.500
Byron Kaipat	Sandlot	10	5	.500
Elliot 'E.J.' Tenorio	D-9er's	10	5	.500
Larson Sibetang	Natives	14	7	.500
Nokki Saralu	Cardinals	14	7	.500
Angelo Igitol	Braves	14	6	.429

Runs Scored: (10) Ariel 'J-Boy' Mendiola, Franco Nakamura, Lamarc Iguel (9) Nokki Saralu, Poland Masaharu (7) Cameron Towai, Jerald Cabrera, Jon Wilson, Kimo Angailen, Thomas Reyes, Tony Tenorio.

Doubles: (2) Anthony Dizon, Brian Camacho, Harry Nakamura, Jerome DLSantos, Larson Sebetang, Mario Salas.

Triples: (1) Ben Lizama, Derrence Diaz, Kaipo Dikito, Niko Martin, Nokki Saralu, Pat Tenorio Jr., Tonchu Norita, Travis Malwebug.

Homeruns: (1) Ben Flores, Dennis Cabrera, Eli Aughenbaugh, Tony Tenorio.

RBIs: (8) Nokki Saralu (7) Byron Kaipat, Darion Jones, Tony Tenorio (6) Franco Nakamura, Mario Salas, Pat Tenorio Jr. (5) Alden Ngeskebei, Harry Nakamura, Luis Iguel

SBL PITCHING LEADERS (Based on 7 or more innings pitched)

Name	Team	Games	Innings	ER	Hits	W/L	ERA
K.J. Villagomez	Cardinals	2	11	0	7	2-0	0.00
A.J. Evangelista	Falcons	1	7	0	3	1-0	0.00
Jason Reyes	Royals	2	9	1	6	1-1	0.78
Jose Lizama Jr.	Bandits	4	15.2	2	10	3-0	0.92
Gino DLCruz	D-9er's	3	7	1	9	1-1	1.00
Jose DLGuerrero	Padres	2	7	1	3	2-0	1.00
Aaron Camacho	Braves	3	13.1	2	9	1-1	1.07
Gloyd Martin	Royals	3	12	2	10	1-0	1.17
Jylon Sablan	Braves	2	12	2	6	1-1	1.17
Benji Palacios	Blue Jays	3	10	2	5	1-0	1.40

Strike-outs: (21) Aaron Camacho (18) Jose Lizama (17) Gloyd Martin (16) Benji Palacios, Jylon Sablan (14) Jason Reyes, K.J. Villagomez (12) R.J. Riungel (11) J.J. Takawo.



Dahl goes deep in Phillies debut to key 3-1 win over Brewers
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Djokovic wins record 370th Slam match but isn't sure he can continue
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



LEIGH GASES

Team Marianas' Antoni Ogomoro in action during the finals of the 2024 Michelob Ultra Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

Aguon: Goal is to be within Top 4



LEIGH GASES

Team Marianas poses for a group photo during the awards ceremony of the 2024 Michelob Ultra Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With less than a month left before the widely anticipated 2024 Micronesian Games in Majuro, Marshall Islands, NMI teams are gearing up and getting their final touches in with their training.

For the NMI Men's National Basketball Team, their goal is to get in the Top 4 as they recently wrapped up their two-month long tourney and preparation for the Games.



Head coach Rufino Aguon, who returned from coaching the NMI national basketball team after retiring in 2010, said their biggest challenge is Guam and has always been Guam—along with the long flight to get to Majuro.

In the last Micro Games in

2018, Guam swept the men's and women's basketball competition. Second place in the men's was Marshall Islands, with Pohnpei in third place. For the women's, Marshall Islands was second as well, while Palau took third place.

Aguon said they do not

have the set schedule yet, but said their strategy is, if there's going to be a pool, they need to be first or at least second.

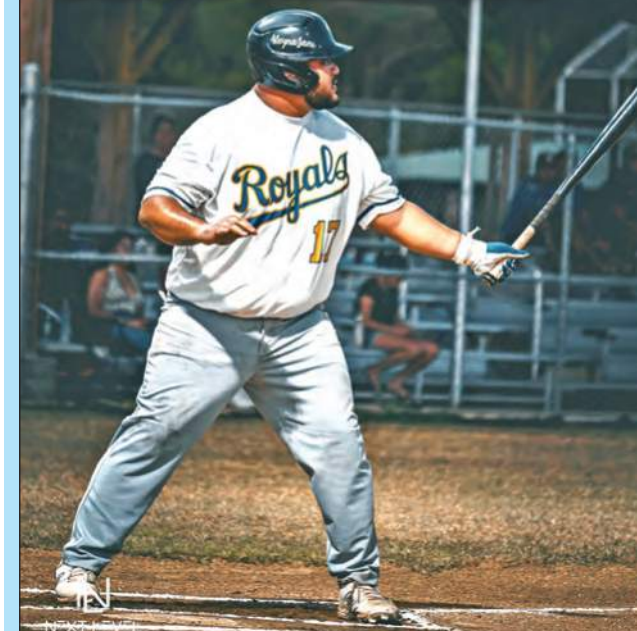
Even with tough competition, he said they have some additions that may be a boost to the team.

A fly-in from Oklahoma,

Micronesia son, 17-year-old, 6'5" Antoni Ogomoro—Aguon's grandson—is part of the NMI's 12-man roster. Ogomoro said on the chance to represent NMI in the Micro Games, "This will be my first time participating and I'm

See AGUON on Page 15

Ngeskebei, Villagomez lead SBL stats race



NEXT LEVEL MEDIA CNMI

Royals' Marvin Ngeskebei is the 2024 Tan Holdings-SBL batting leader as of May 30.

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER



The Royals' Marvin Ngeskebei has sole possession of the batting leader

crown, while the Cardinals' K.J. Villagomez is the pitching leader as of May 30 in the 2024 Tan Holdings-SBL.

Ngeskebei has the highest batting average at .667 from

See SBL on Page 15

Taylor Germance is Home Run Derby king



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Taylor Germance, center, poses with his first-place prizes during the 2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association master's division Home Run Derby last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER



Taylor Germance is the king of the 2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association master's division Home Run Derby last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

After the round of games earlier in the day, the Home Run Derby was set up for sluggers willing to showcase their strength and hit souvenirs out of the ballpark.

Asahi's Germance dominated

the derby in the second and last round after he out-scoring teammate Dom Hideo. Germance hit four homers to secure first place, while Hideo hit two for second place.

Third place went to Tutturamz' Mike Techur after he hit four fingers in the first round.

Germance and Hideo were tied at five moon shots in the first round to advance to the second and final stage.

All 12 participants had 10 balls and tries throughout the derby.

The champion Germance

See TAYLOR on Page 15



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dom Hideo, center, poses with his second-place prizes during the 2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association master's division Home Run Derby last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mike Techur, left, is third place in the 2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association master's division Home Run Derby last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.